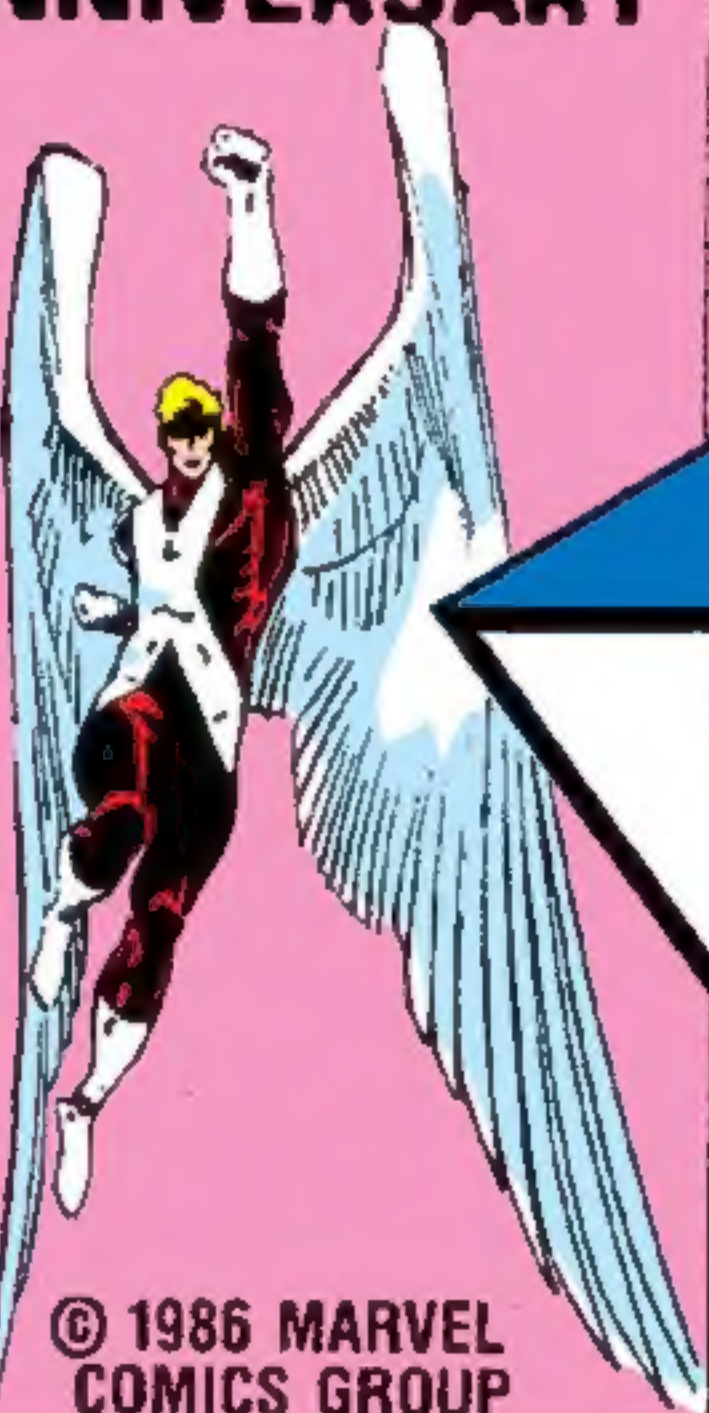


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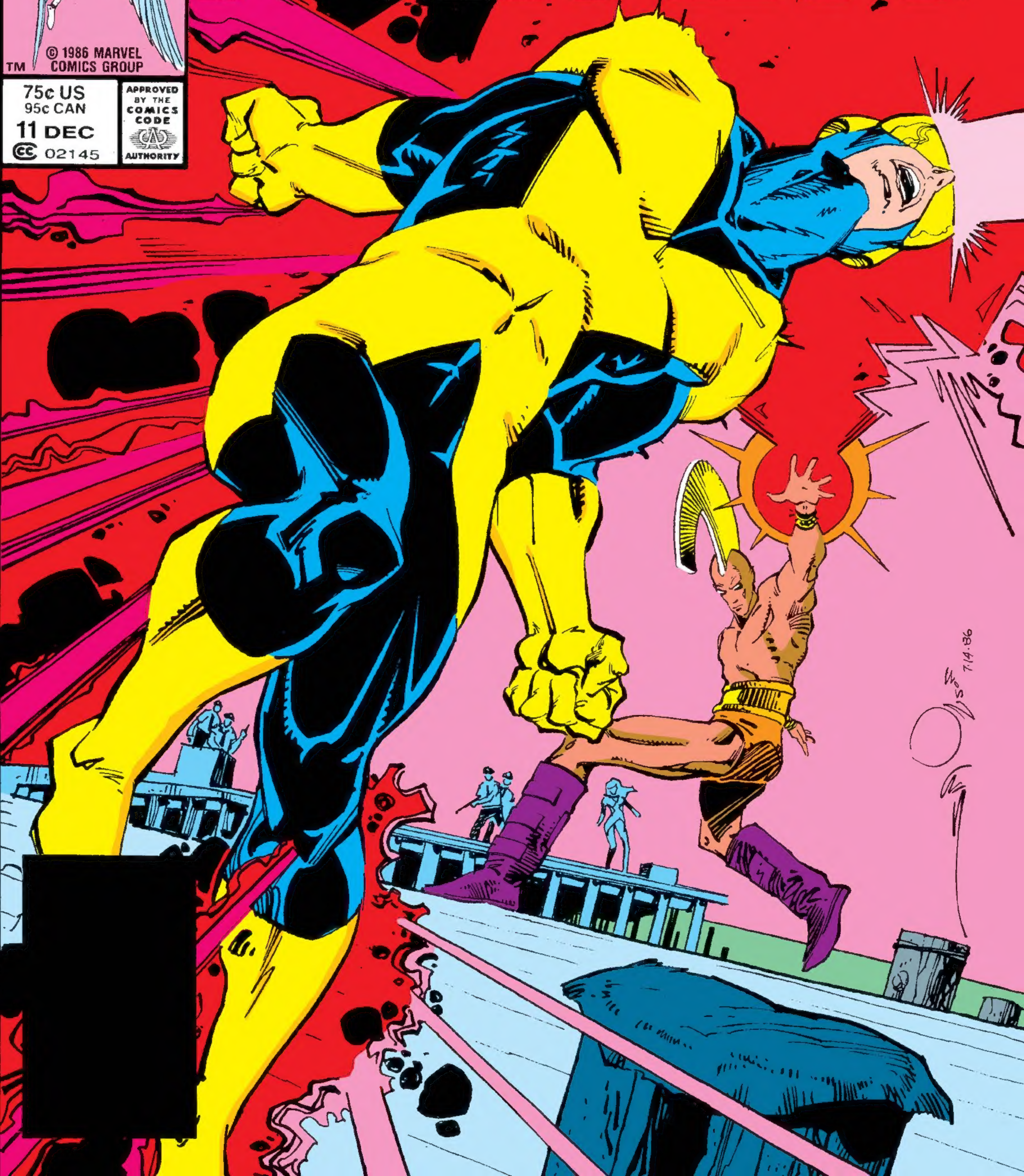


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BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

X FACTOR™



50 714.86

FOR YEARS, THE ALLEY HAS SHELTERED THE MORLOCKS, SOCIETY'S OUTCASTS BORN WITH AN X-FACTOR IN THEIR GENETIC STRUCTURE THAT GIVES THEM MORE-THAN-HUMAN ABILITIES!

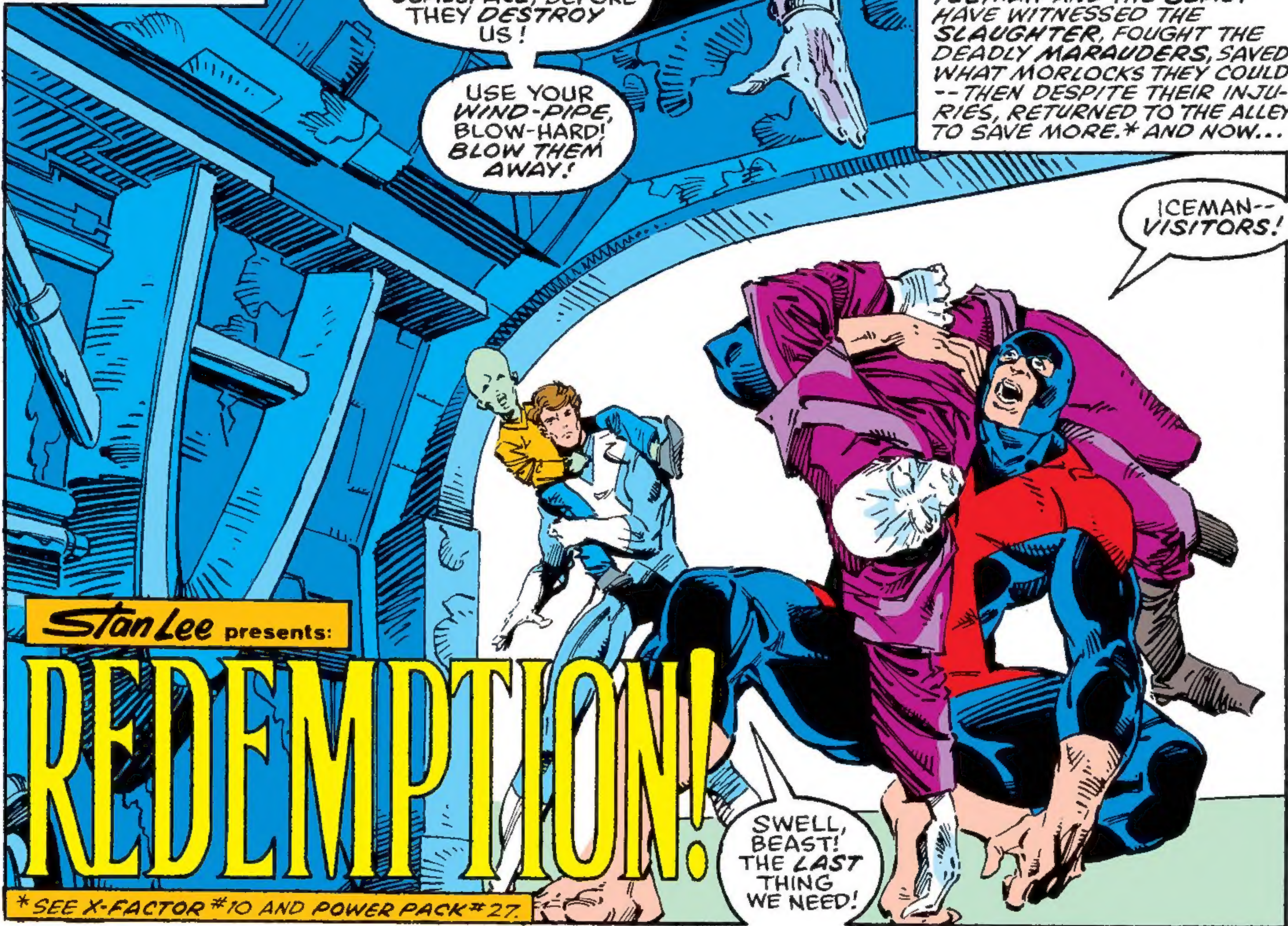


NOW STRANGERS HAVE INVADDED THE ALLEY--SLAUGHTERING ALL WHO LIVE--AND IT NO LONGER SEEMS POSSIBLE TO TELL FRIEND FROM FOE...

THERE THEY ARE, MORE OF 'EM! CRUSH THEM, SCALEFACE, BEFORE THEY DESTROY US!

USE YOUR WIND-PIPE, BLOW-HARD! BLOW THEM AWAY!

ICEMAN AND THE BEAST HAVE WITNESSED THE SLAUGHTER, FOUGHT THE DEADLY MARAUDERS, SAVED WHAT MORLOCKS THEY COULD -- THEN DESPITE THEIR INJURIES, RETURNED TO THE ALLEY TO SAVE MORE.* AND NOW...



ICEMAN--VISITORS!

SWELL, BEAST! THE LAST THING WE NEED!

Stan Lee presents:

REDEMPTION!

*SEE X-FACTOR #10 AND POWER PACK #27.

LOUISE SIMONSON
WRITER

WALT SIMONSON
PENCILER

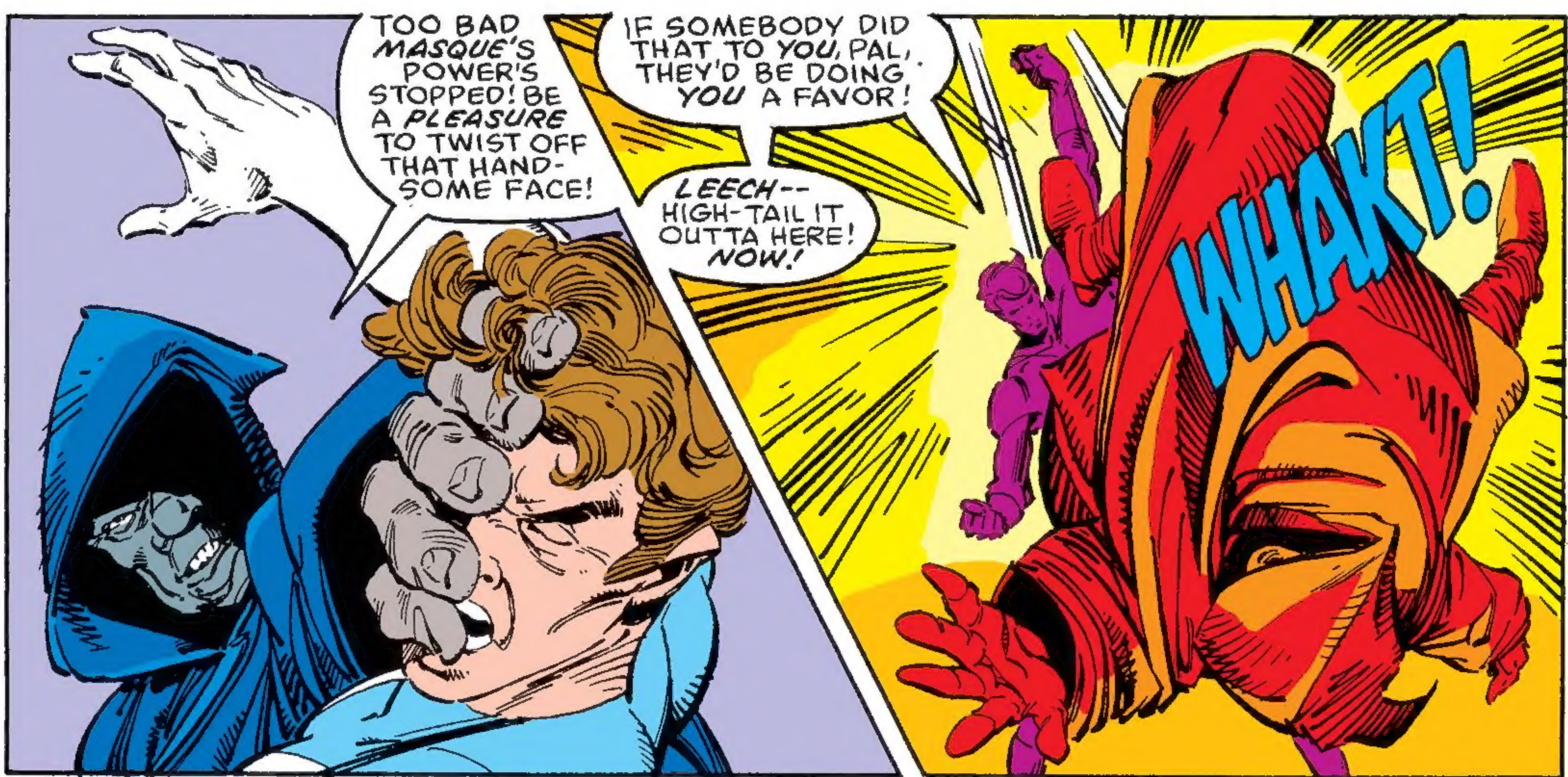
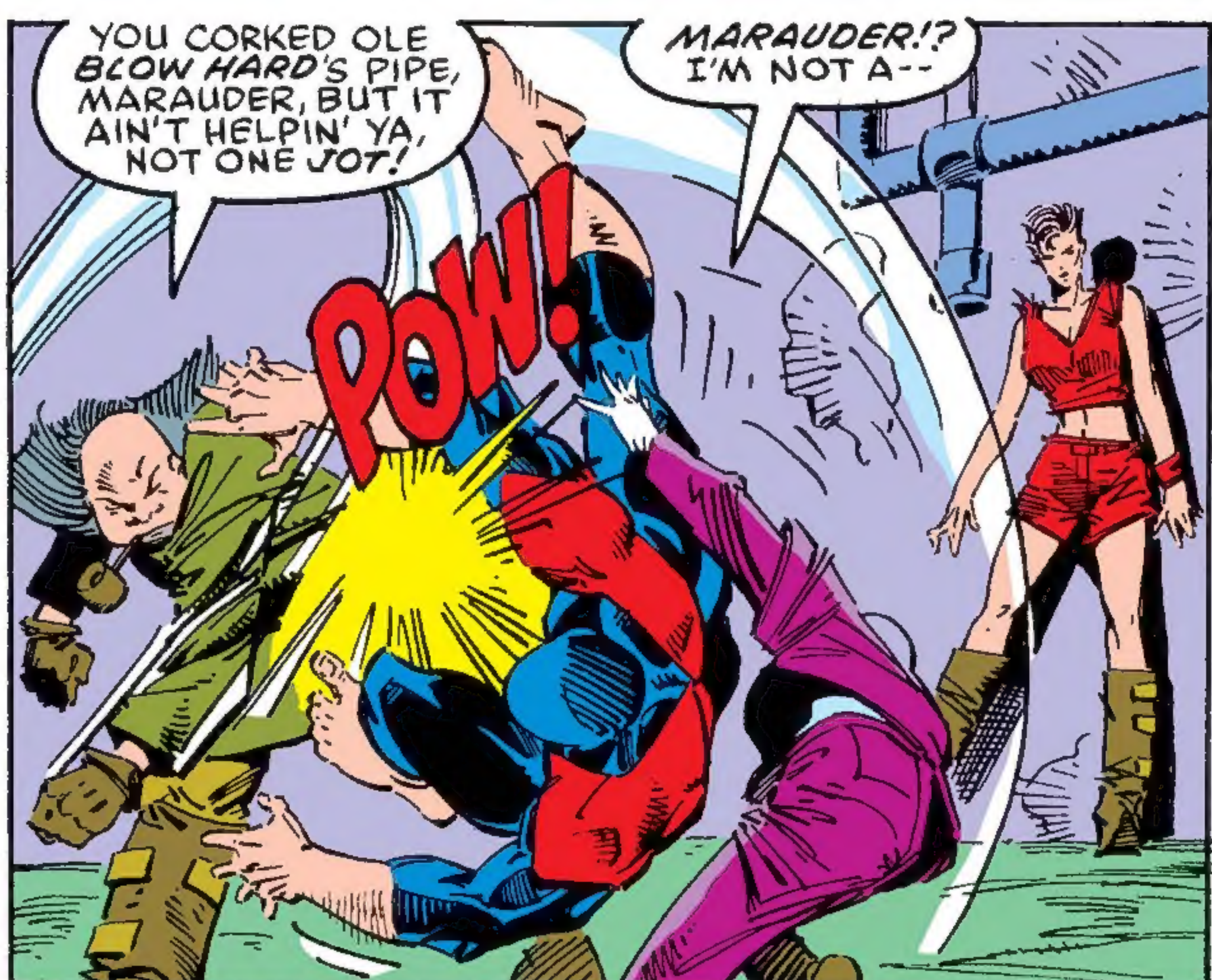
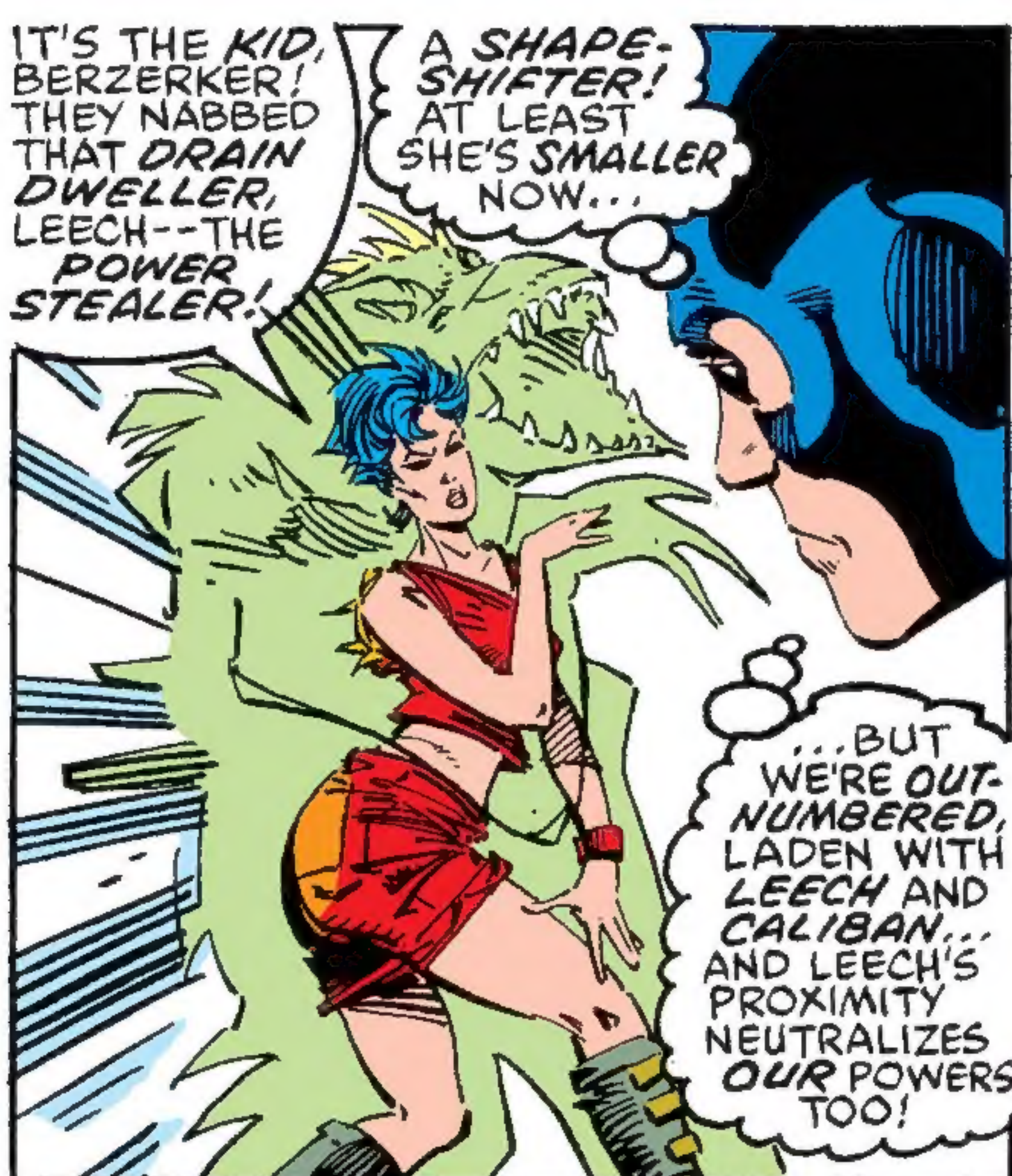
BOB WIACEK
INKS

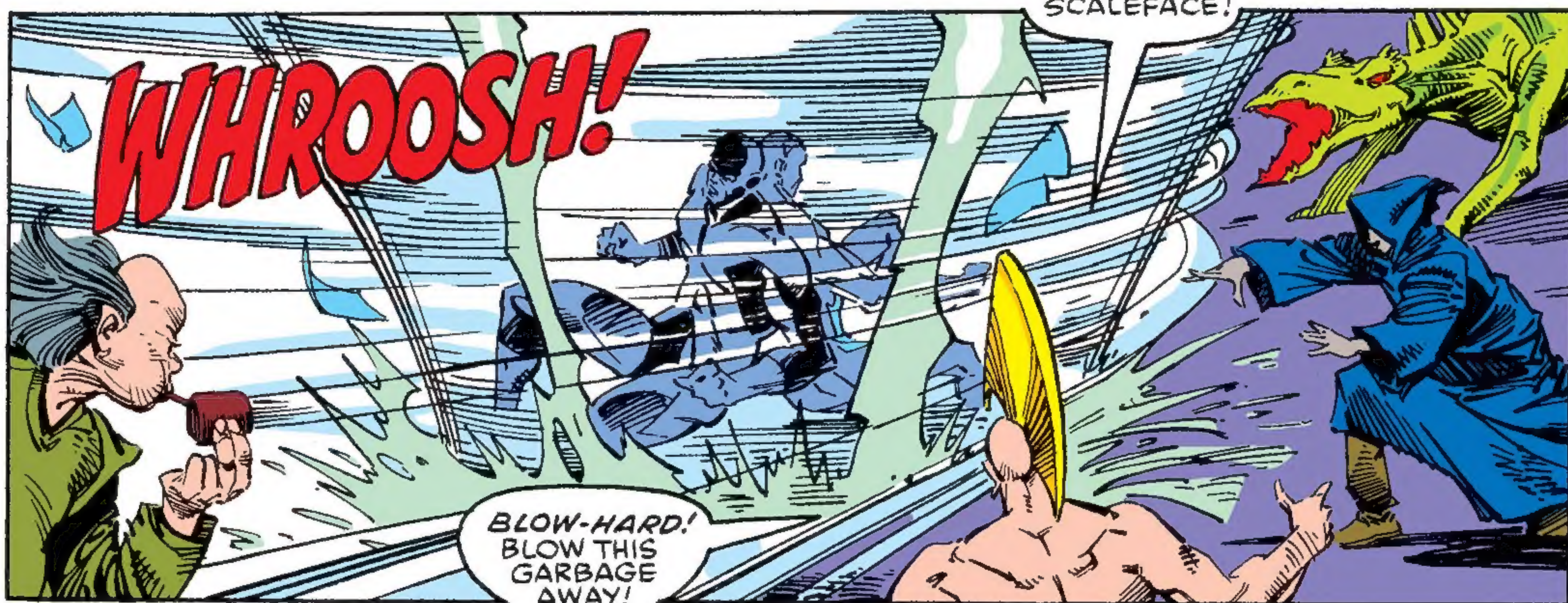
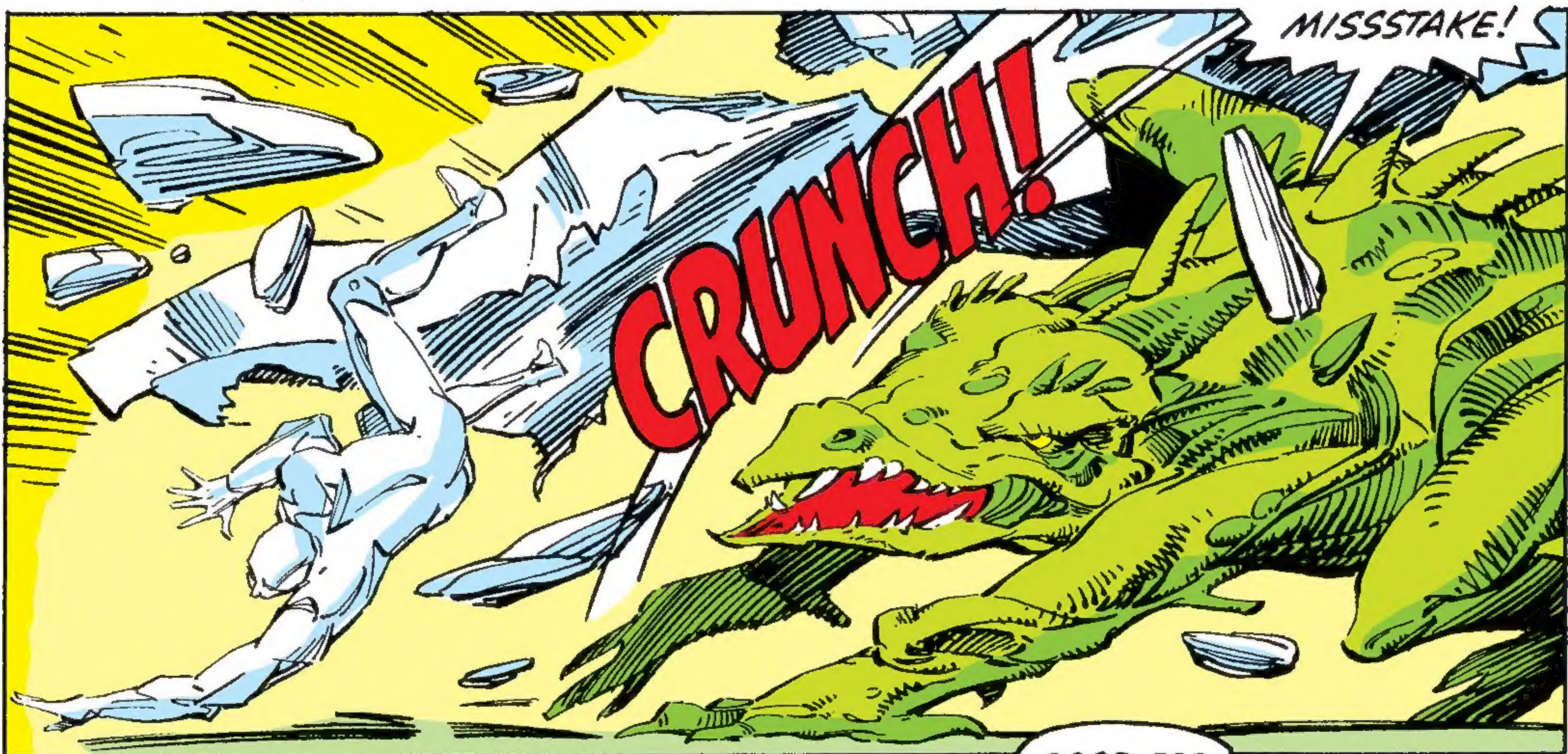
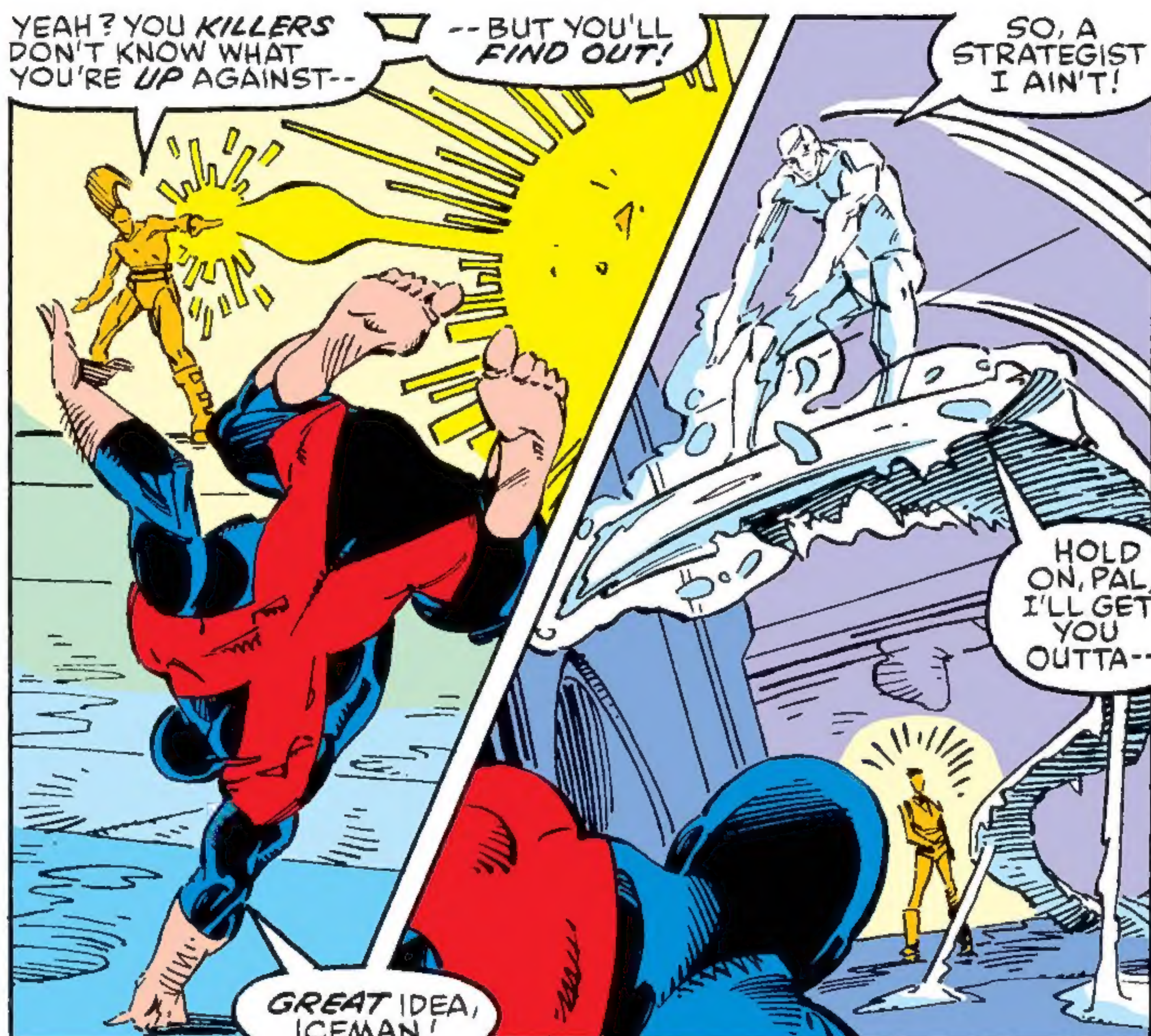
JOE ROSEN
LETTERER

PETRA SCOTese
COLORIST

BOB HARRAS
EDITOR

JIM SHOOTER
ED. IN CHIEF





WHILE NEARBY...

I CAN'T WRENCH IT FROM MY MIND, SCOTT! I'LL BE WALKING ALONG... THINKING... ABOUT NOTHING...

...AND THEN I'M BACK... IN THE MIDST OF BATTLE... AND THE MARAUDERS ARE KILLING EVERY LIVING MUTANT THEY CAN FIND!

WE SAVED SOME OF THEM, JEAN.

IT'S WHAT WE'RE HERE FOR... WHETHER WE'RE POSING AS HUMAN MUTANT-HUNTERS --X-FACTOR-- OR AS FREEDOM FIGHTING X-TERMINATORS...

...IT'S WHAT WE'VE DEDICATED OUR LIVES TO... WHAT, IN THE END, WILL REDEEM US... DESPITE OUR FAULTS!

"AND WE WEREN'T ALONE! THOSE CHILDREN--POWER PACK--RESCUED LEECH AND CALIBAN AND LEFT THEM IN OUR CARE..."

...AND WE SENT BEAST AND ICEMAN BACK TO OUR COMPLEX WITH THEM ALONE!

*SEE POWER PACK #28, BOB

HOW'S ANGEL?

UN-CONSCIOUS, BURNING UP WITH FEVER... LUCKY TO BE ALIVE... AFTER WHAT THEY DID TO HIM!

WHAT IS IT, ARTIE? WHAT ARE YOU PROJECTING?

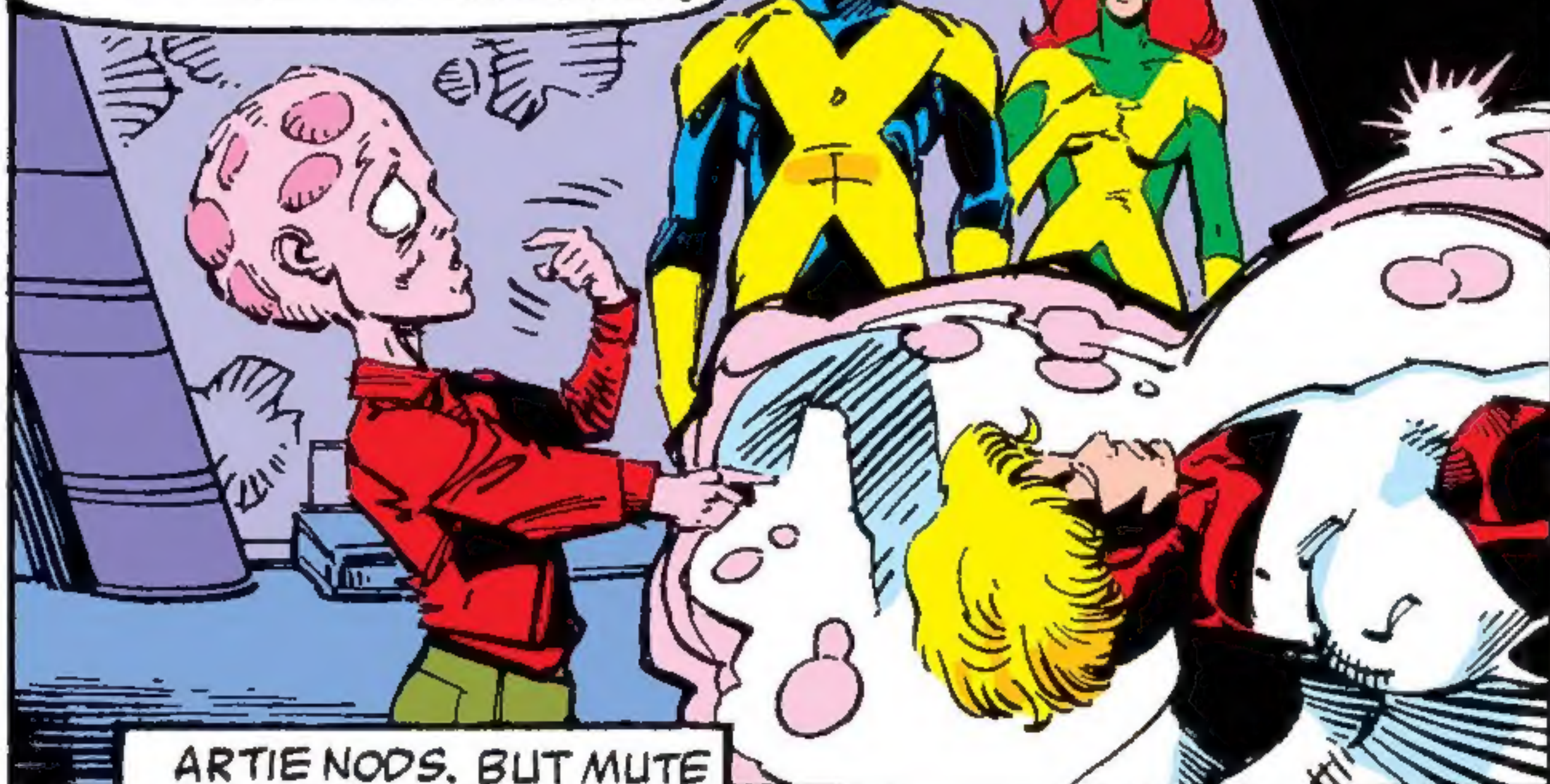
YES, THE MARAUDERS ATTACKED YOU AND ANGEL...

"-- AND NEARLY TORE OFF HIS WINGS..."

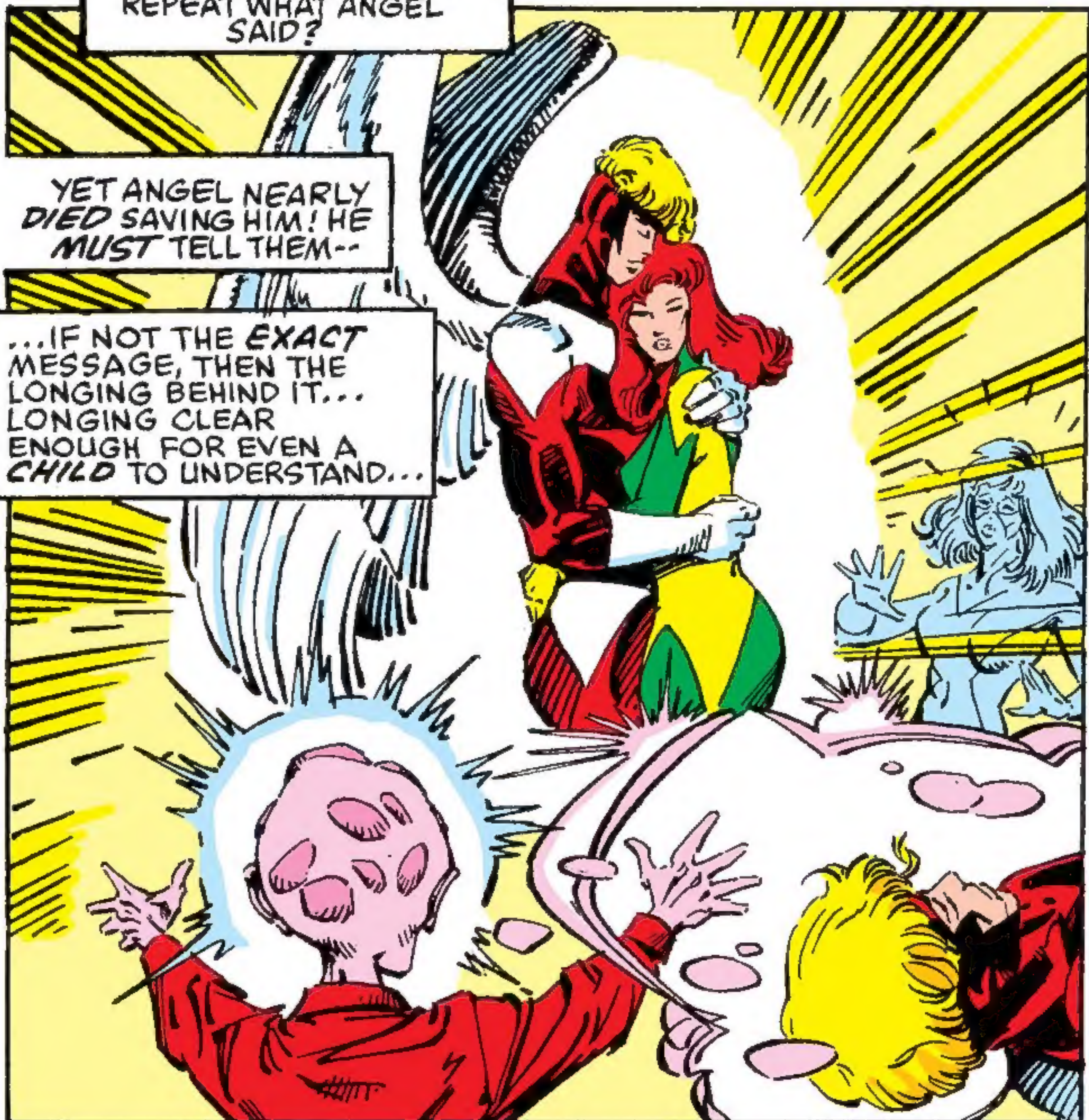
"THEN THOR CAME... SAVED ANGEL'S LIFE... FOUND YOU AND GAVE YOU BOTH TO SCOTT--CYCLOPS--AND ME!*"

*FOR THE WHOLE STORY, SEE THOR #374! BOB.

WHAT IS IT, ARTIE? DID ANGEL WANT YOU TO TELL JEAN SOMETHING? SOMETHING IMPORTANT?



ARTIE NODS. BUT MUTE AS HE IS, HOW CAN HE REPEAT WHAT ANGEL SAID?

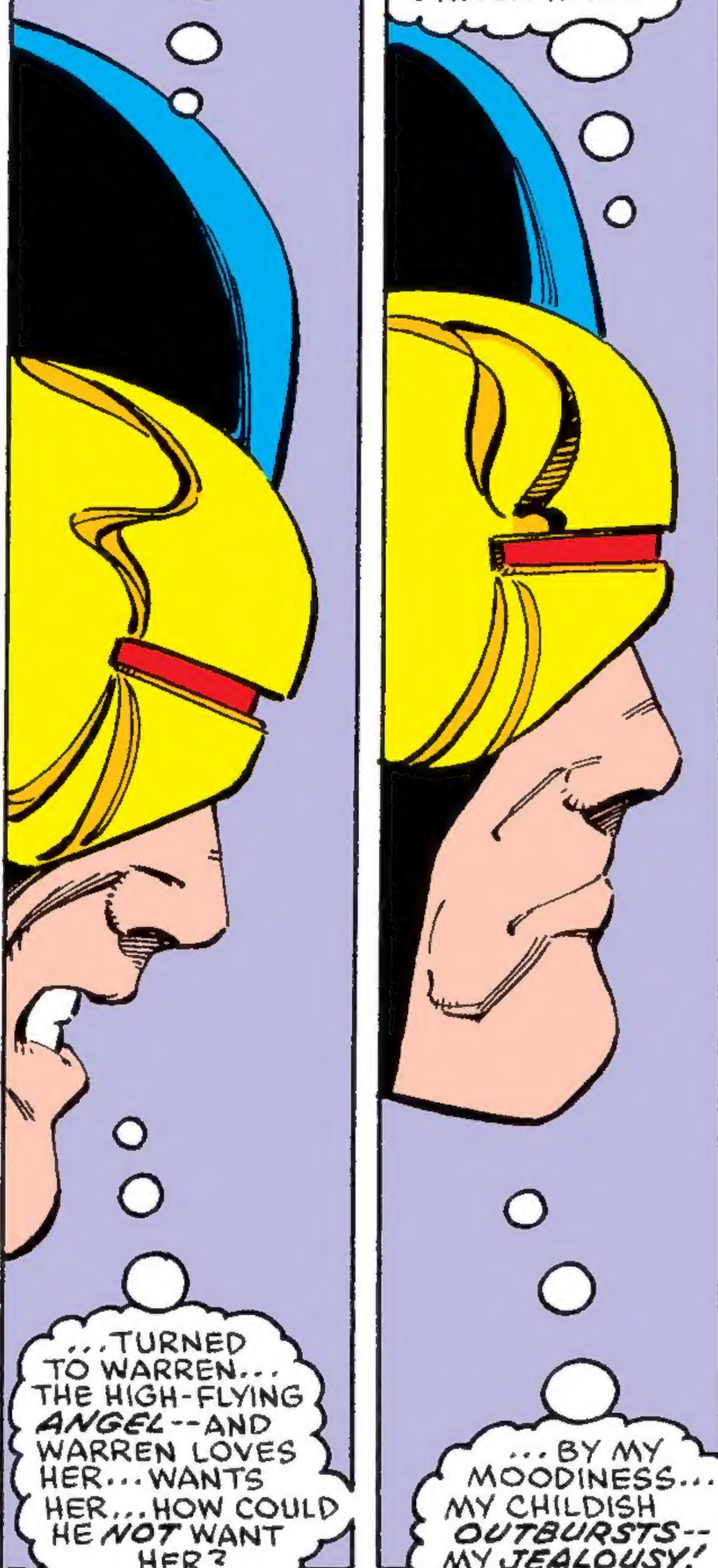


YET ANGEL NEARLY DIED SAVING HIM! HE MUST TELL THEM--

...IF NOT THE EXACT MESSAGE, THEN THE LONGING BEHIND IT... LONGING CLEAR ENOUGH FOR EVEN A CHILD TO UNDERSTAND...

I KNEW THIS WOULD HAPPEN! JEAN KNOWS I'M MARRIED AND SHE'S TURNED FROM ME...

ONLY... HE'S NOT FLYING SO HIGH ANY MORE, IS HE... SO BADLY HURT... HURT THROUGH MY FAULT... MY FAULT HE WAS DRIVEN HERE...



...TURNED TO WARREN... THE HIGH-FLYING ANGEL--AND WARREN LOVES HER... WANTS HER... HOW COULD HE NOT WANT HER?

...BY MY MOODINESS... MY CHILDISH OUTBURSTS--MY JEALOUSY!

ENOUGH! NO MORE! IT'S THEIR LIVES... THEIR CHOICE...



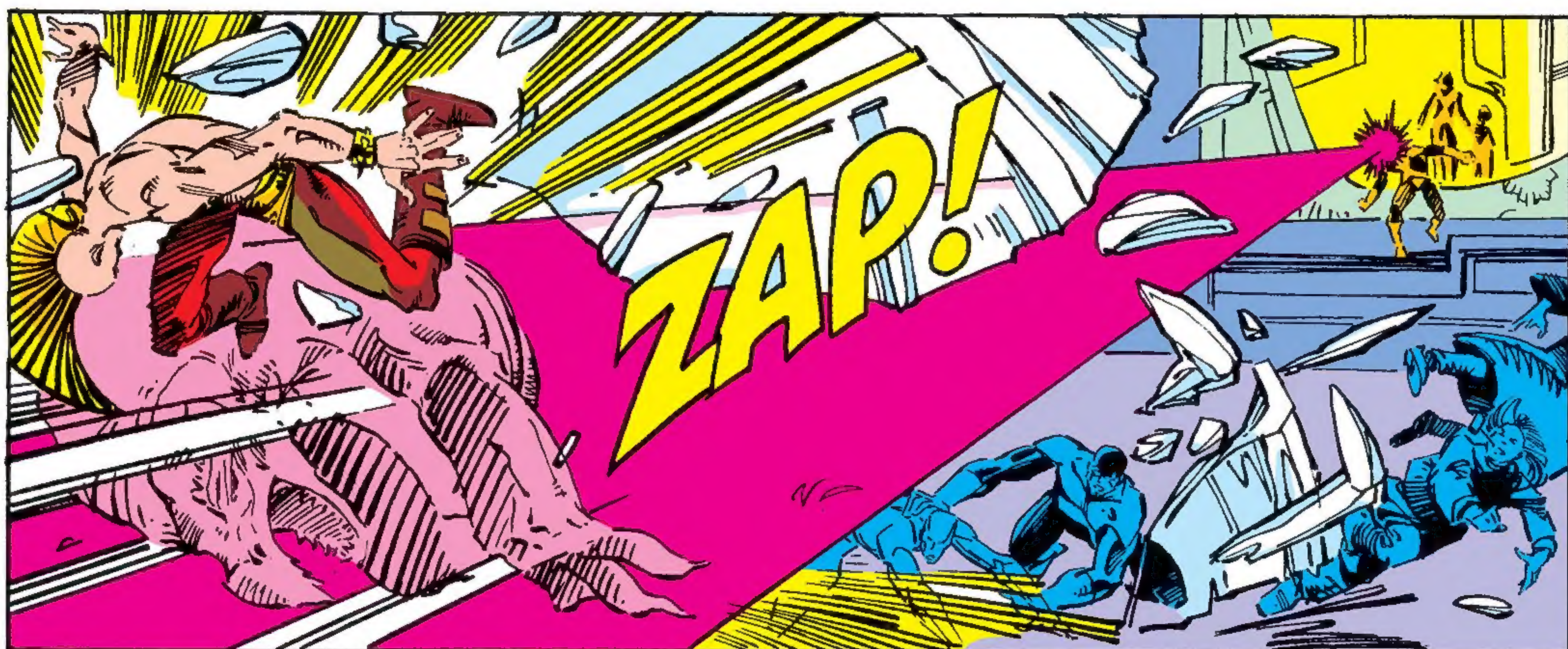
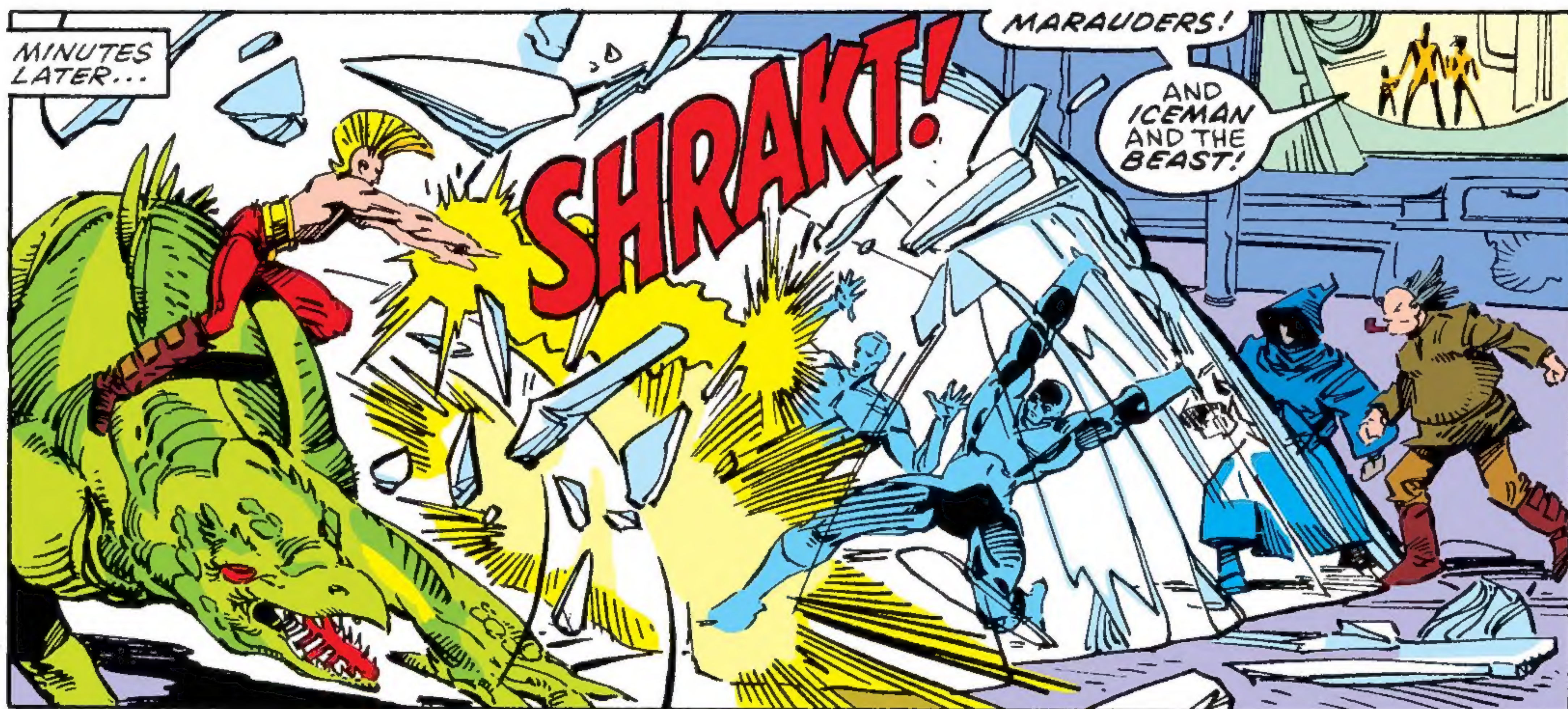
IT'S ALL RIGHT, ARTIE! I'M OKAY! I'M GOING TO BE FINE!

COME ON...



ZAP!
SHRAKT!

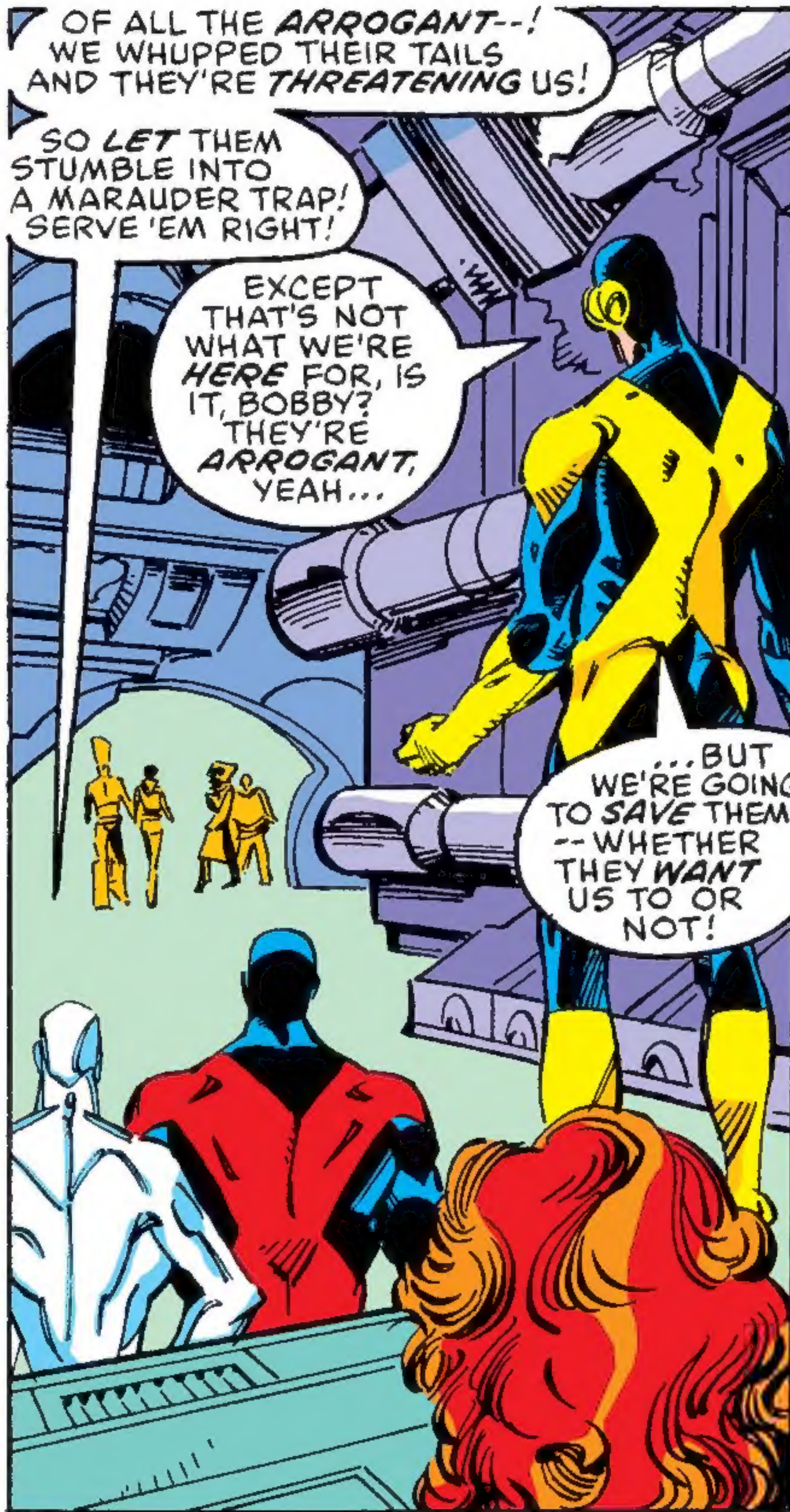
JEAN!
TROUBLE!
THROUGH
THERE!





...THE MUTANT **FREEDOM FIGHTERS!** VERY WELL, STRANGERS, WE'LL LET YOU LIVE, BUT WE LEAVE YOU WITH THIS **WARNING--**

GET OUT OF THE ALLEY! GET OUT AND STAY OUT OF OUR WAY!



OF ALL THE **ARROGANT--!** WE WHUPPED THEIR TAILS AND THEY'RE **THREATENING US!**

SO LET THEM STUMBLE INTO A MARAUDER TRAP! SERVE 'EM RIGHT!

EXCEPT THAT'S NOT WHAT WE'RE **HERE FOR**, IS IT, BOBBY? THEY'RE **ARROGANT**, YEAH...

...BUT WE'RE GOING TO **SAVE THEM**-- WHETHER THEY WANT US TO OR NOT!



TUNNELERS, WE HAVE A **COMPLEX** WHERE YOU'LL BE **SAFE!** THE... **DRAIN DWELLERS** ARE ALREADY THERE!

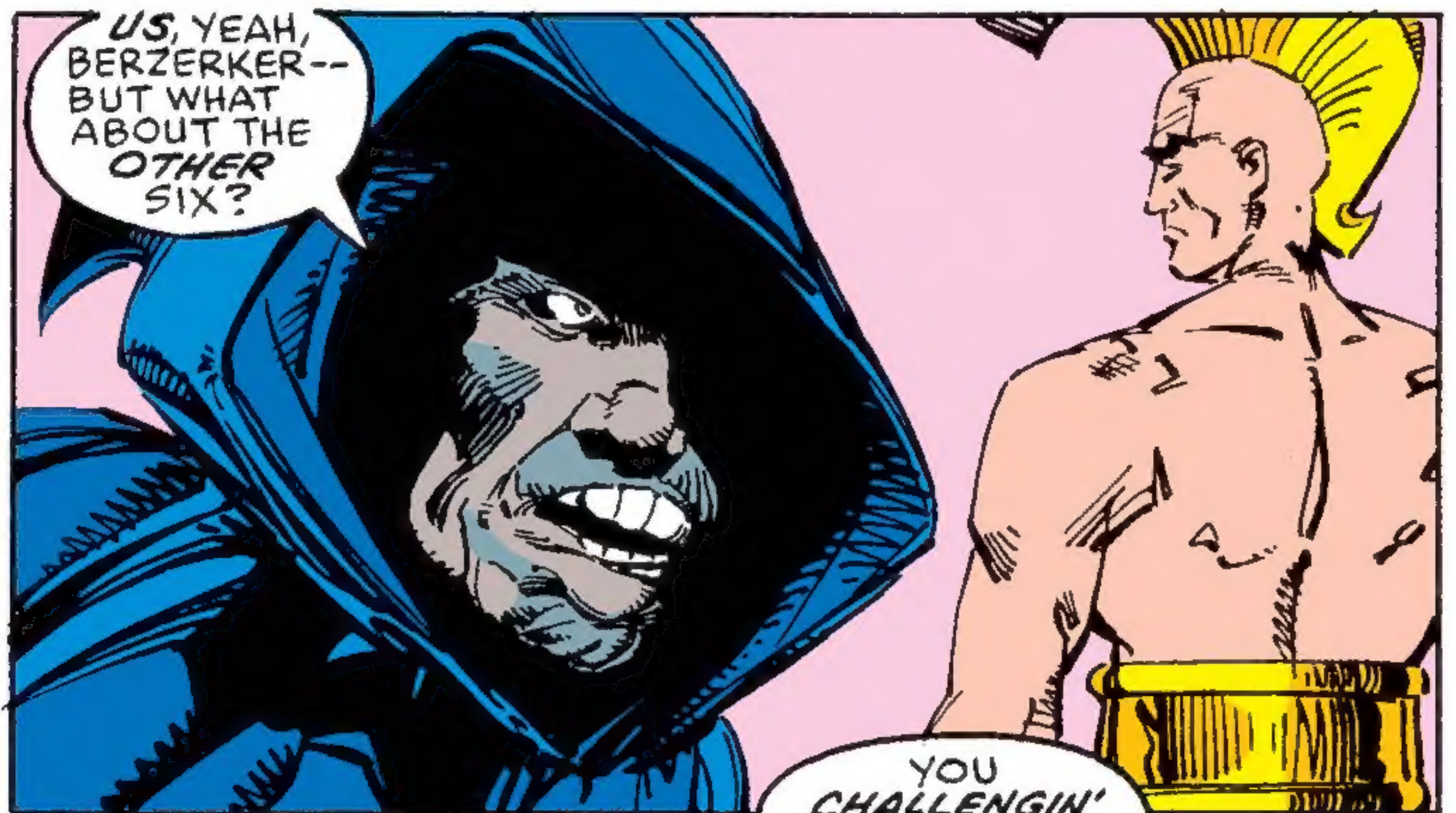
WE...**INVITE YOU TO JOIN!**



WE AIN'T WIMPY **DRAIN DWELLERS**, PAL! WE **FACED** THE MARAUDERS DOWN-- **WON OUT--** BY OURSELVES!

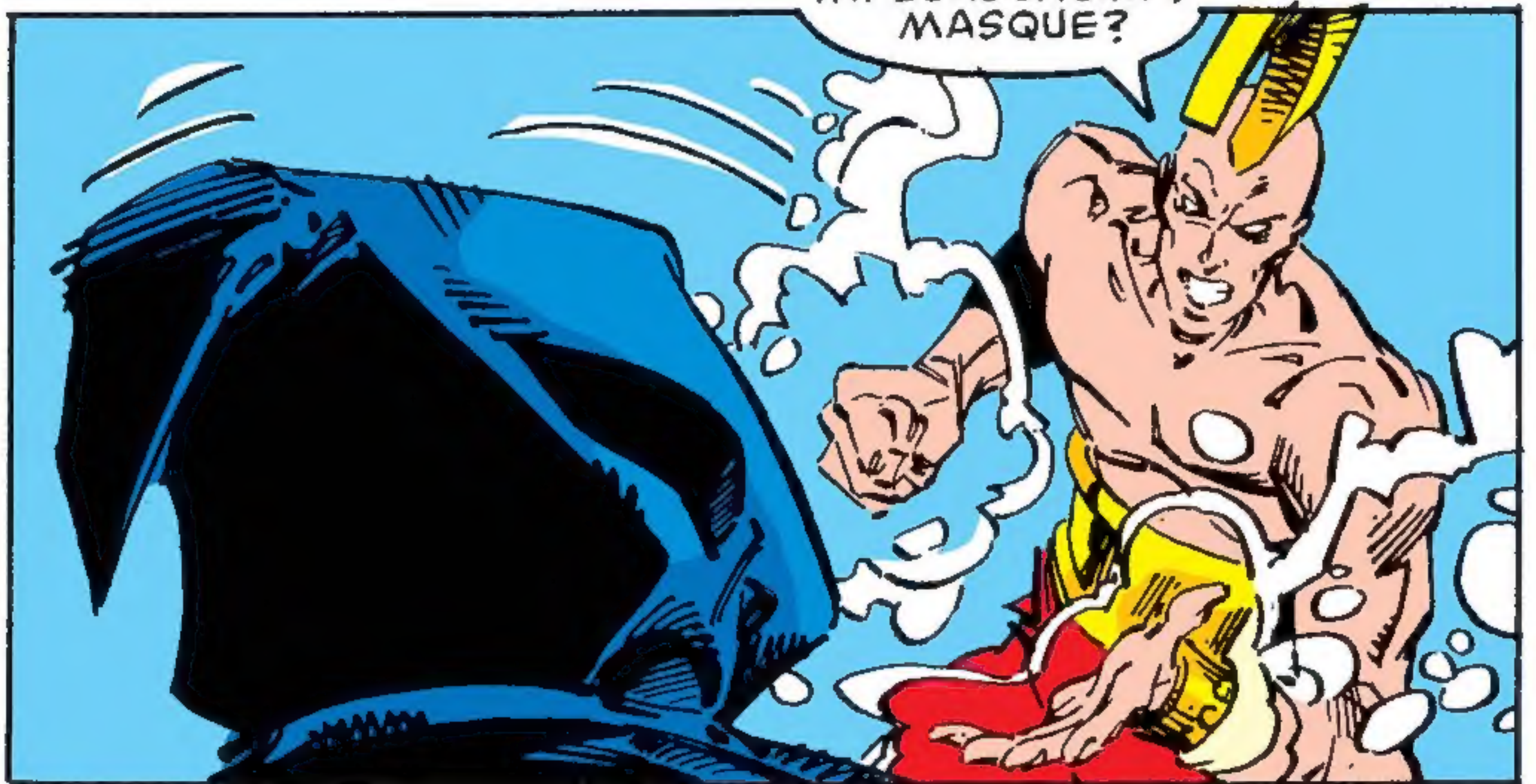
NO WAY WE'LL BE LED OFF NOW, **QUIET AN' STUPID** LIKE STEERS TO THE **SLAUGHTER HOUSE!**

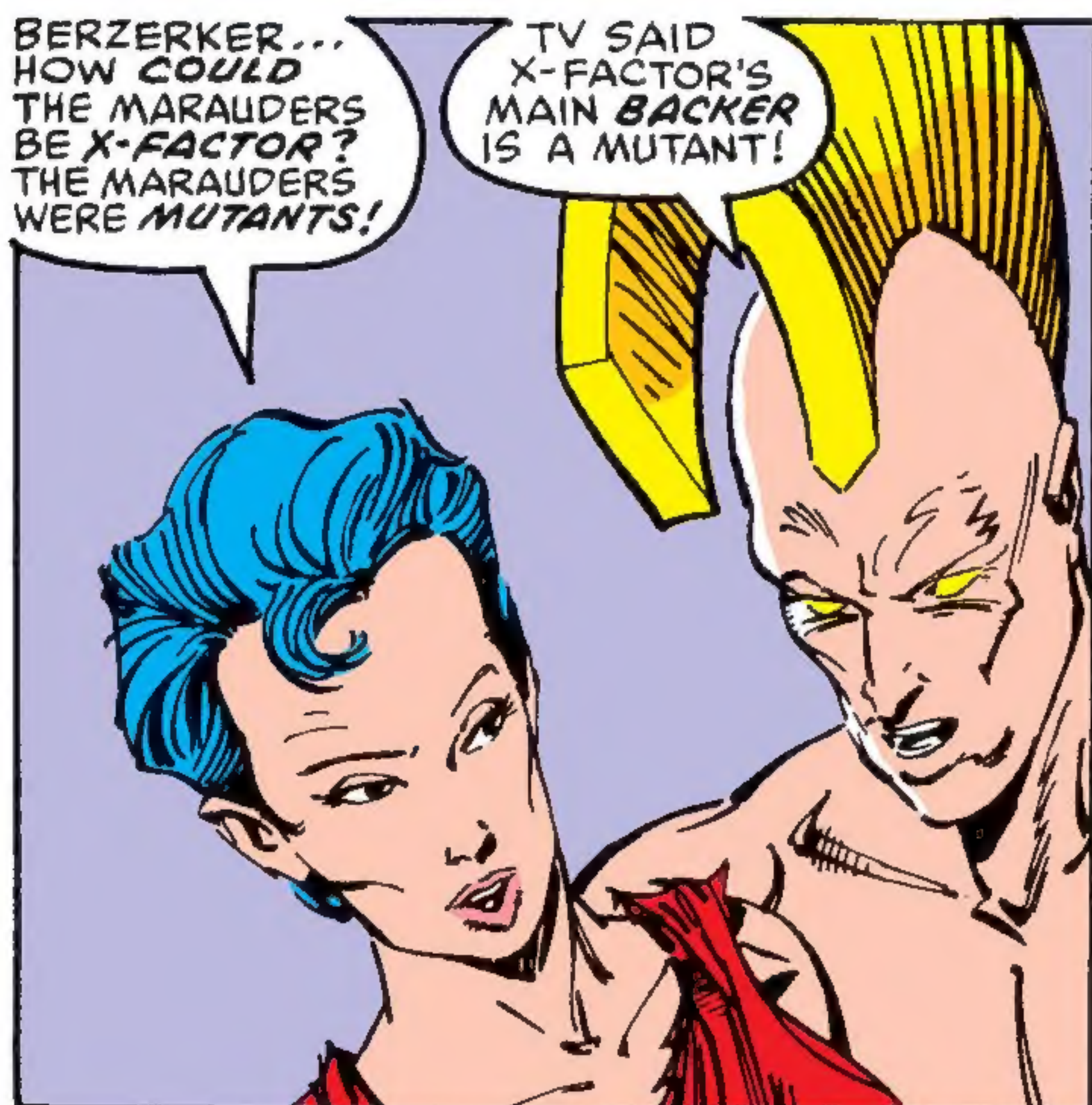
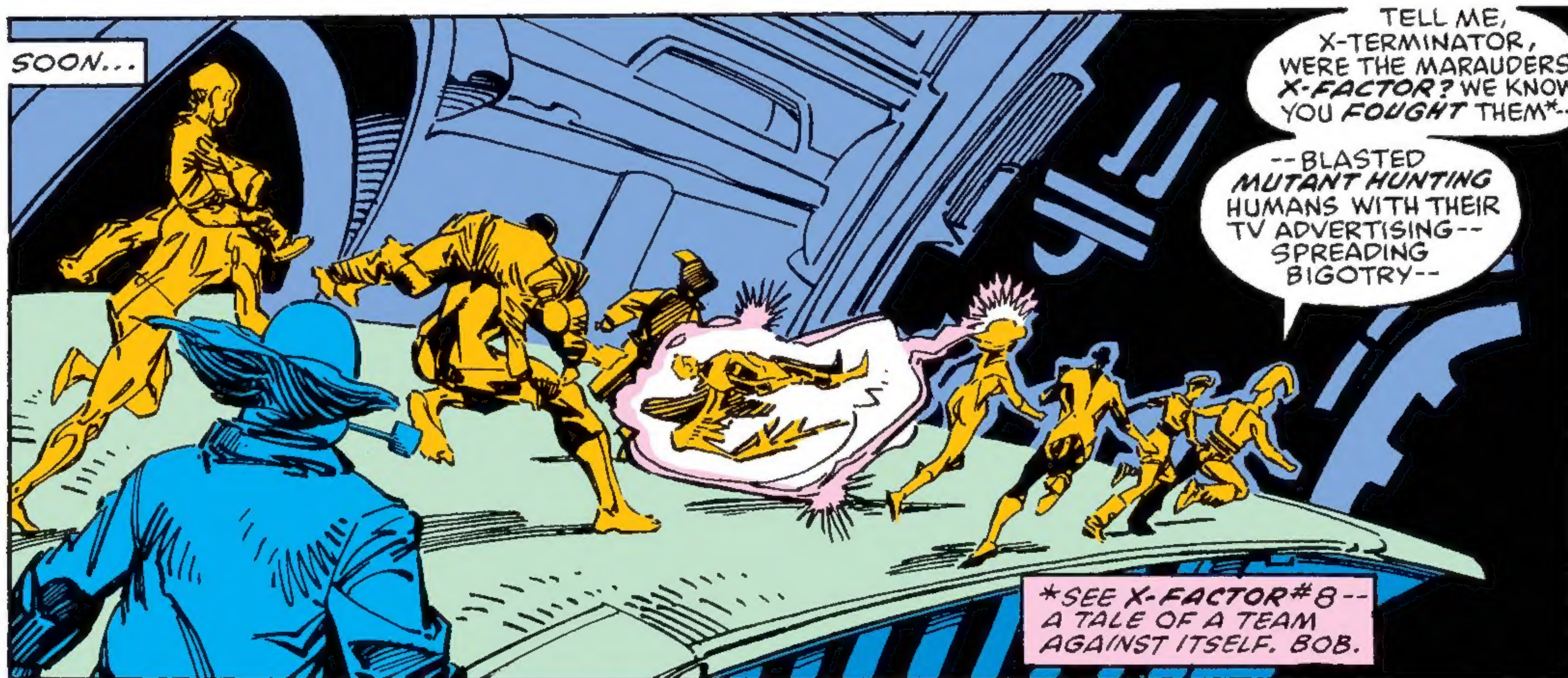
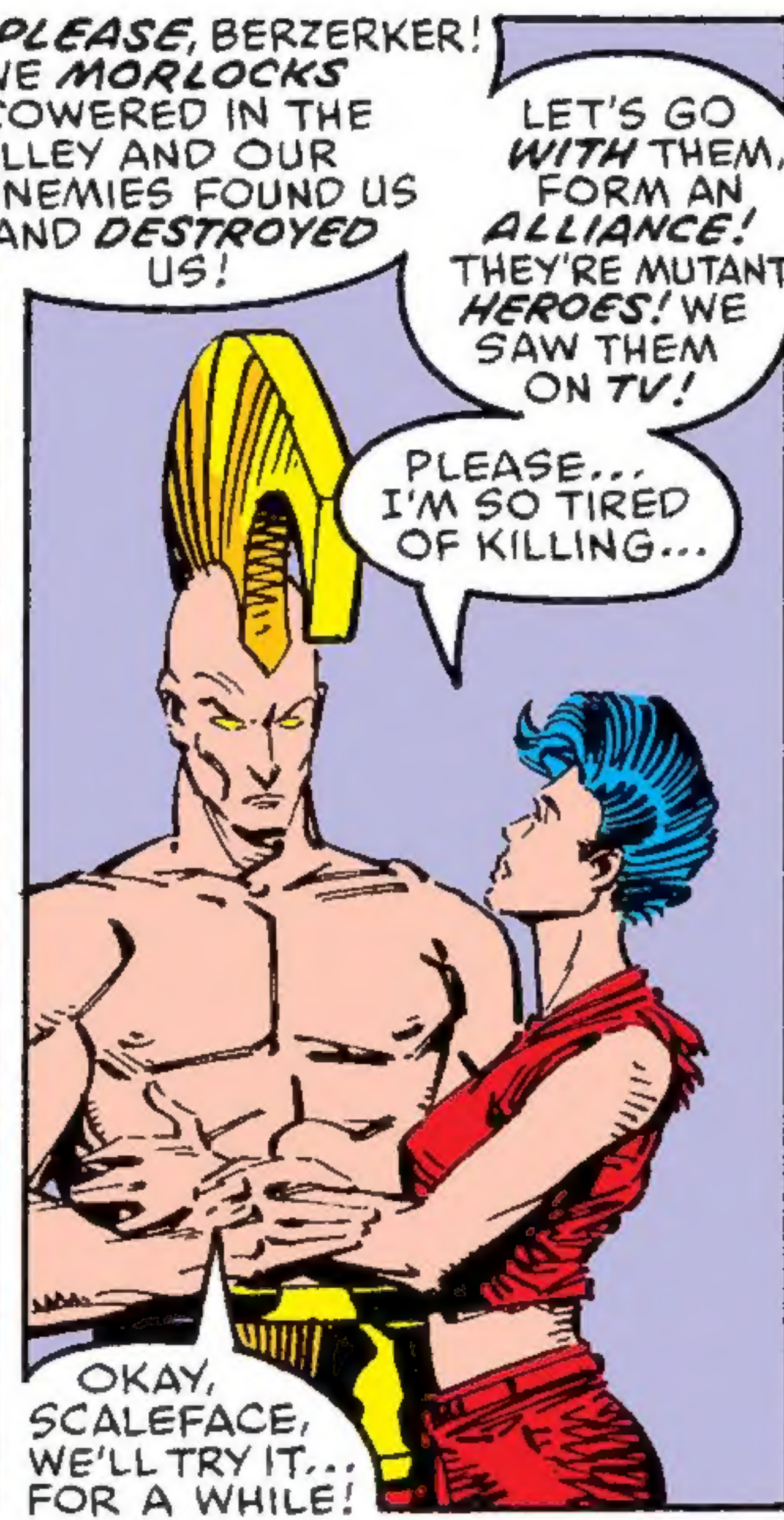
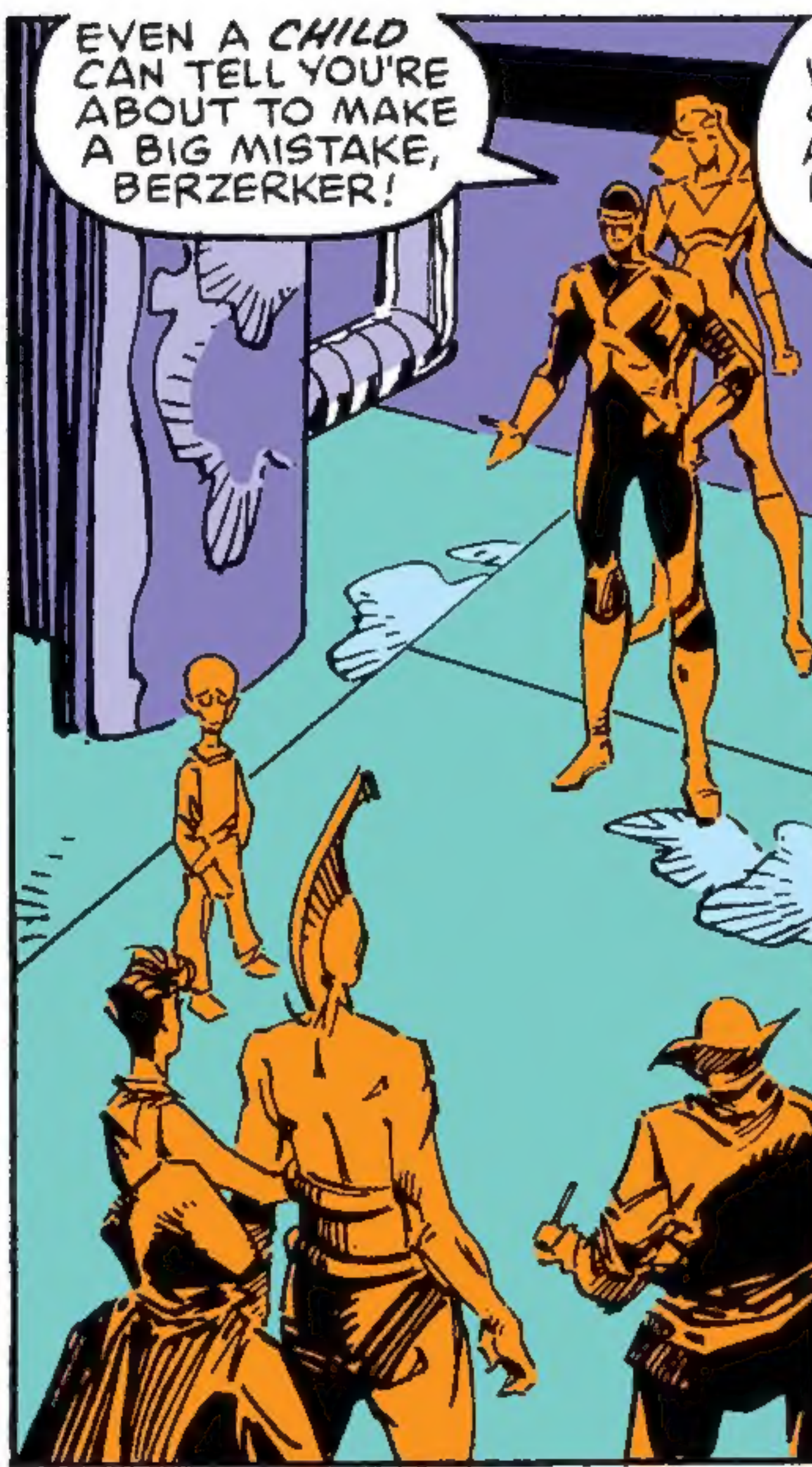
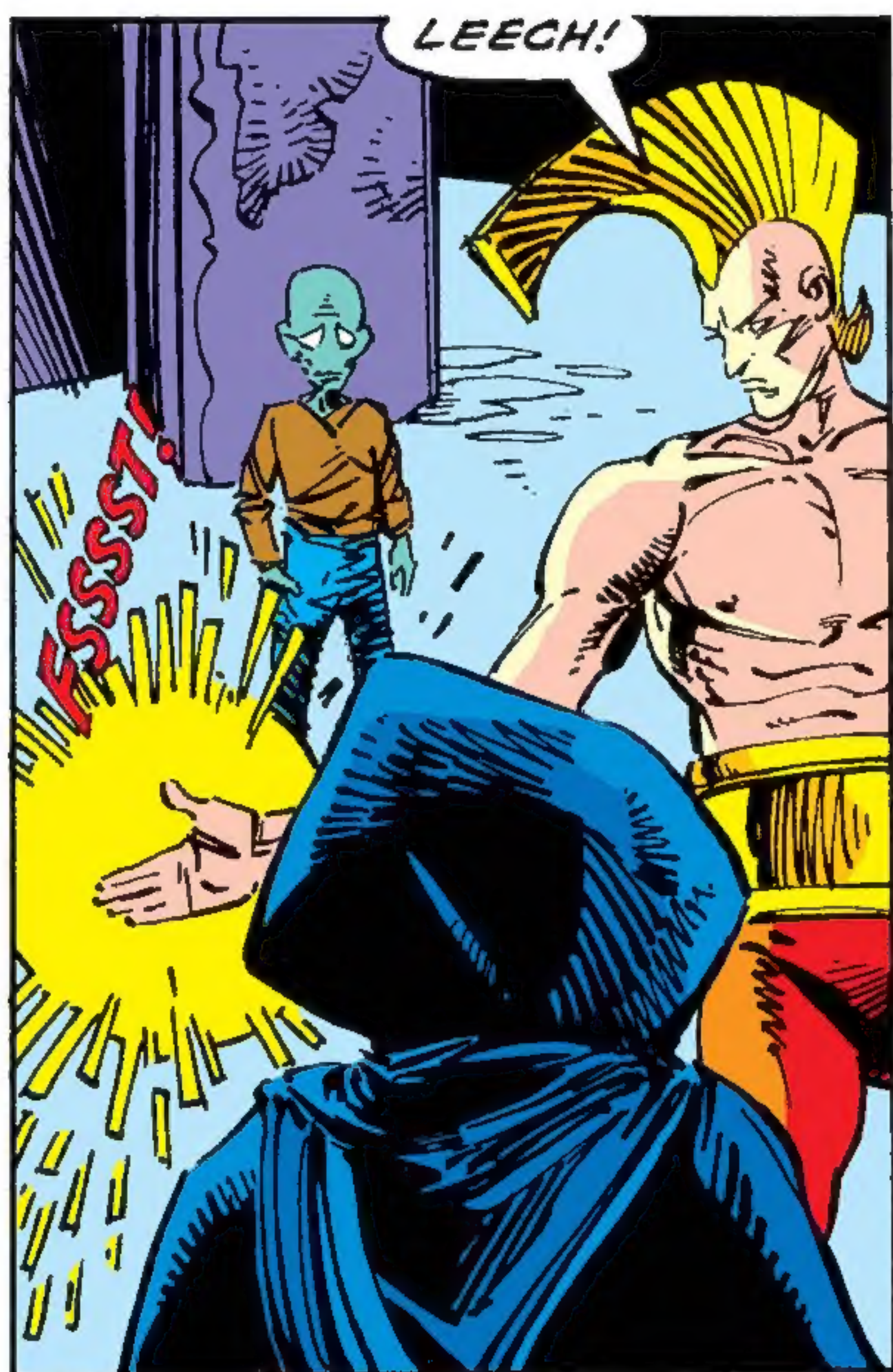
I'VE KEPT THESE **TUNNELERS** ALIVE--

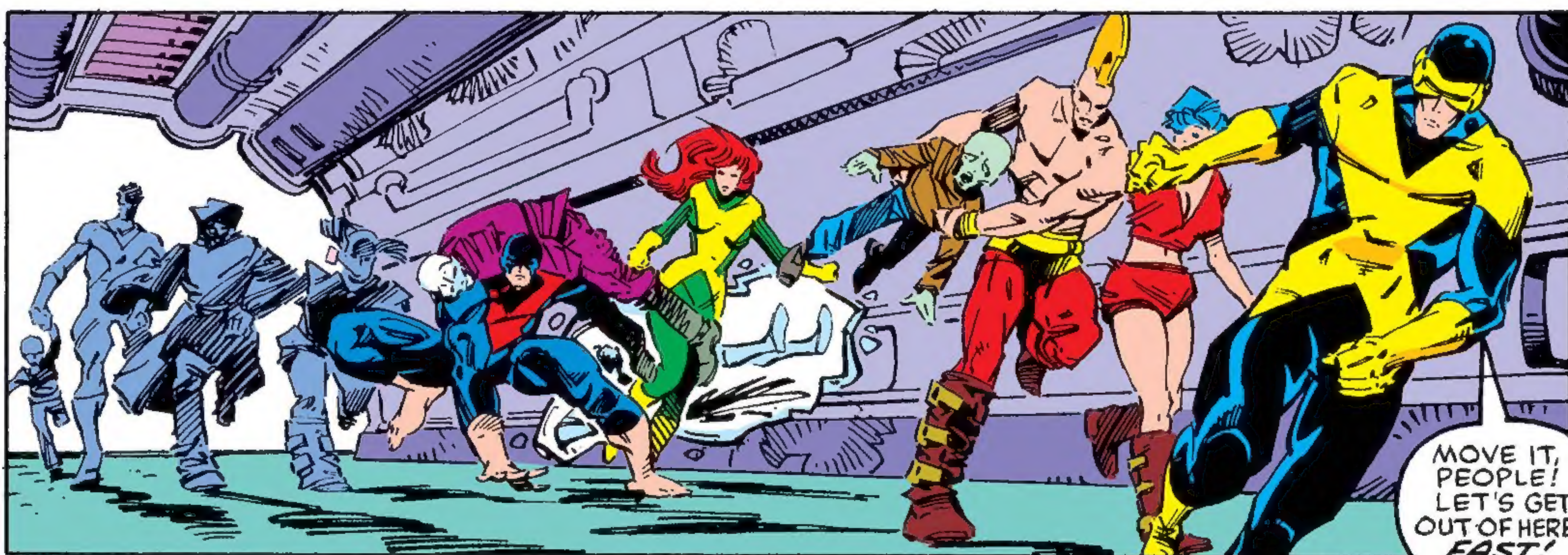


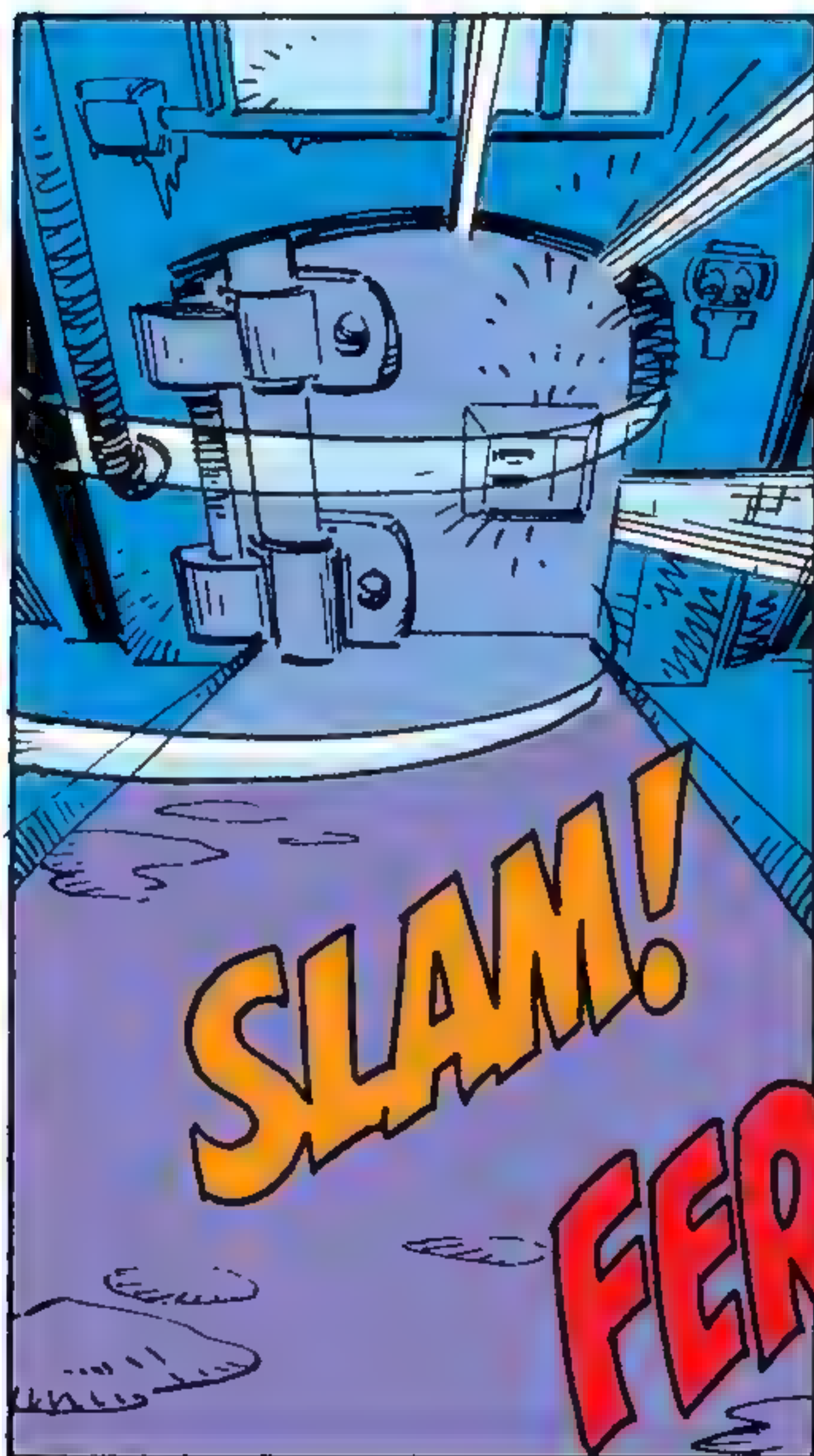
US, YEAH, **BERZERKER--** BUT WHAT ABOUT THE **OTHER SIX?**

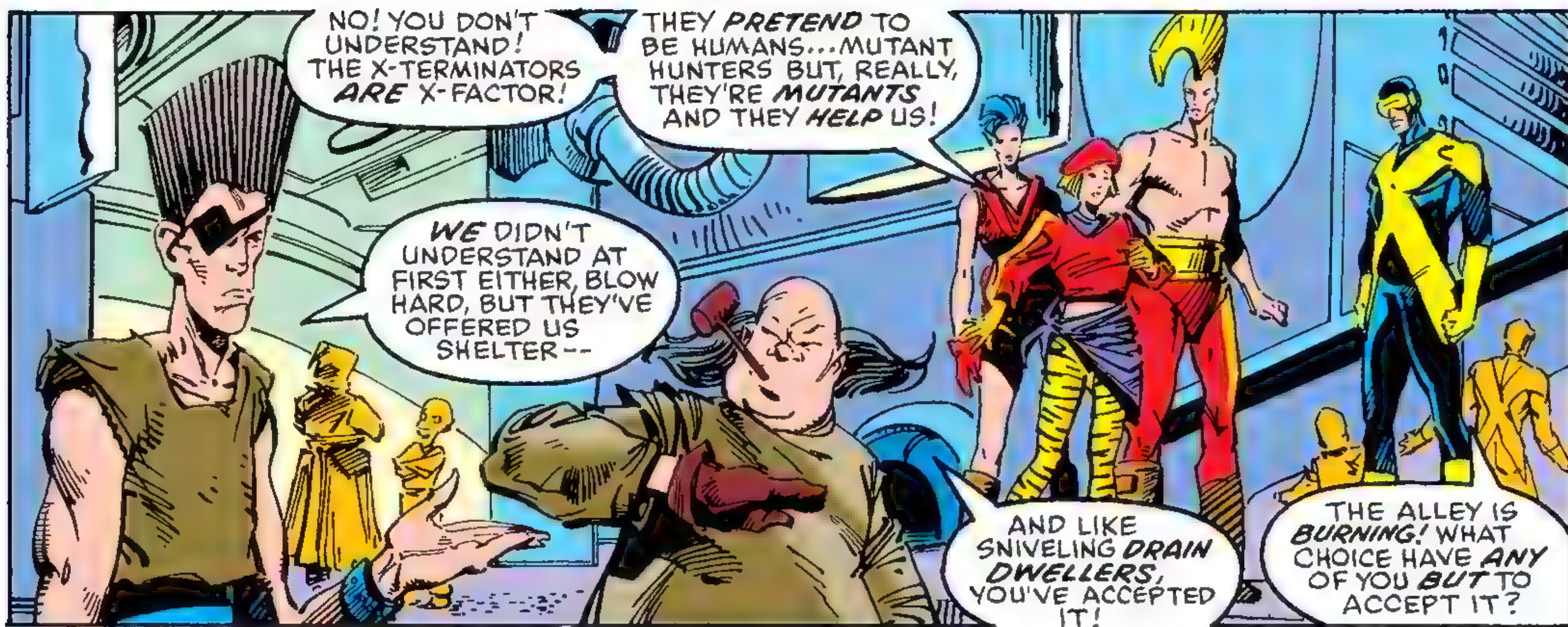
YOU **CHALLENGIN'** MY **LEADERSHIP**, MASQUE?



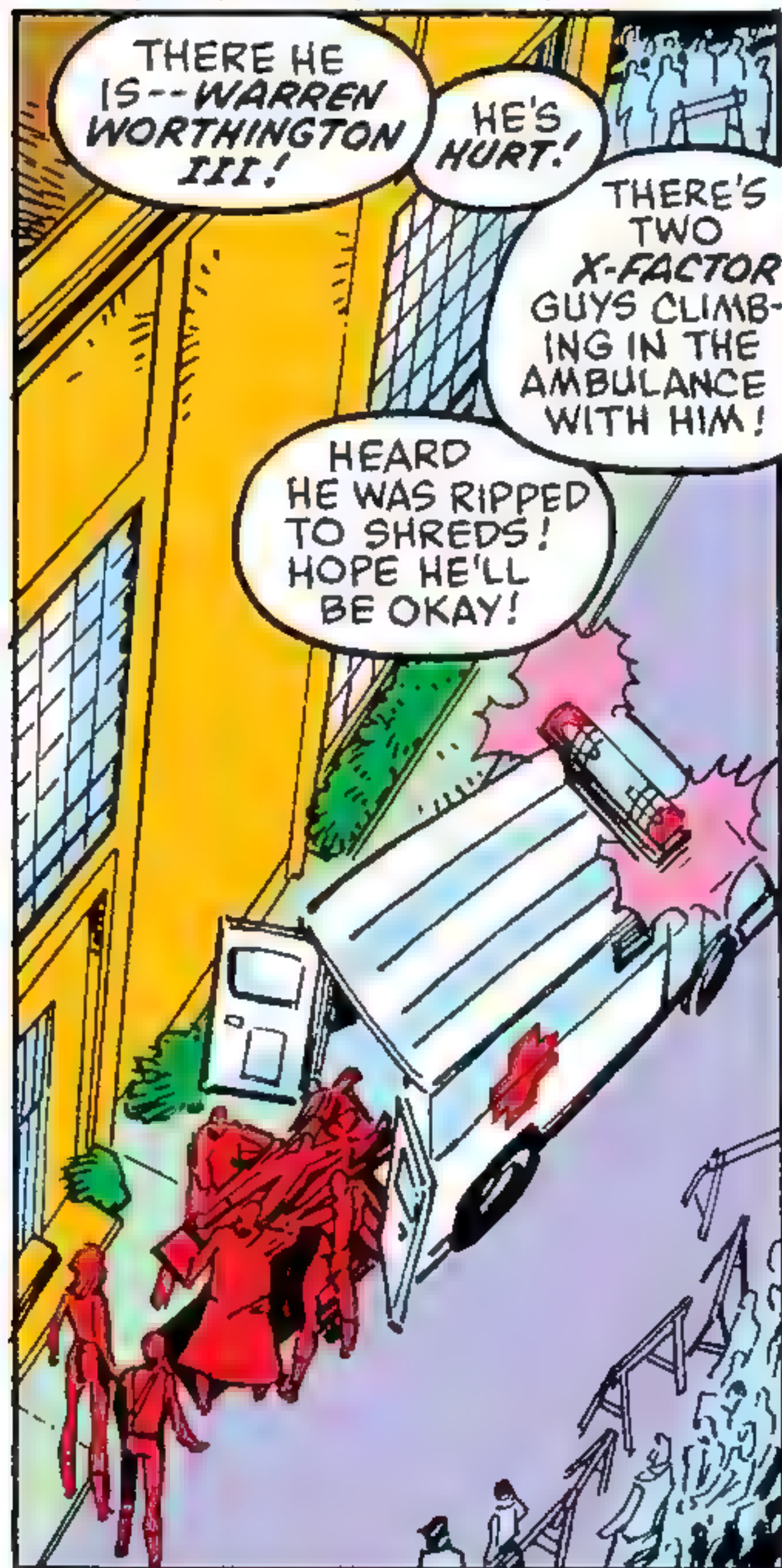








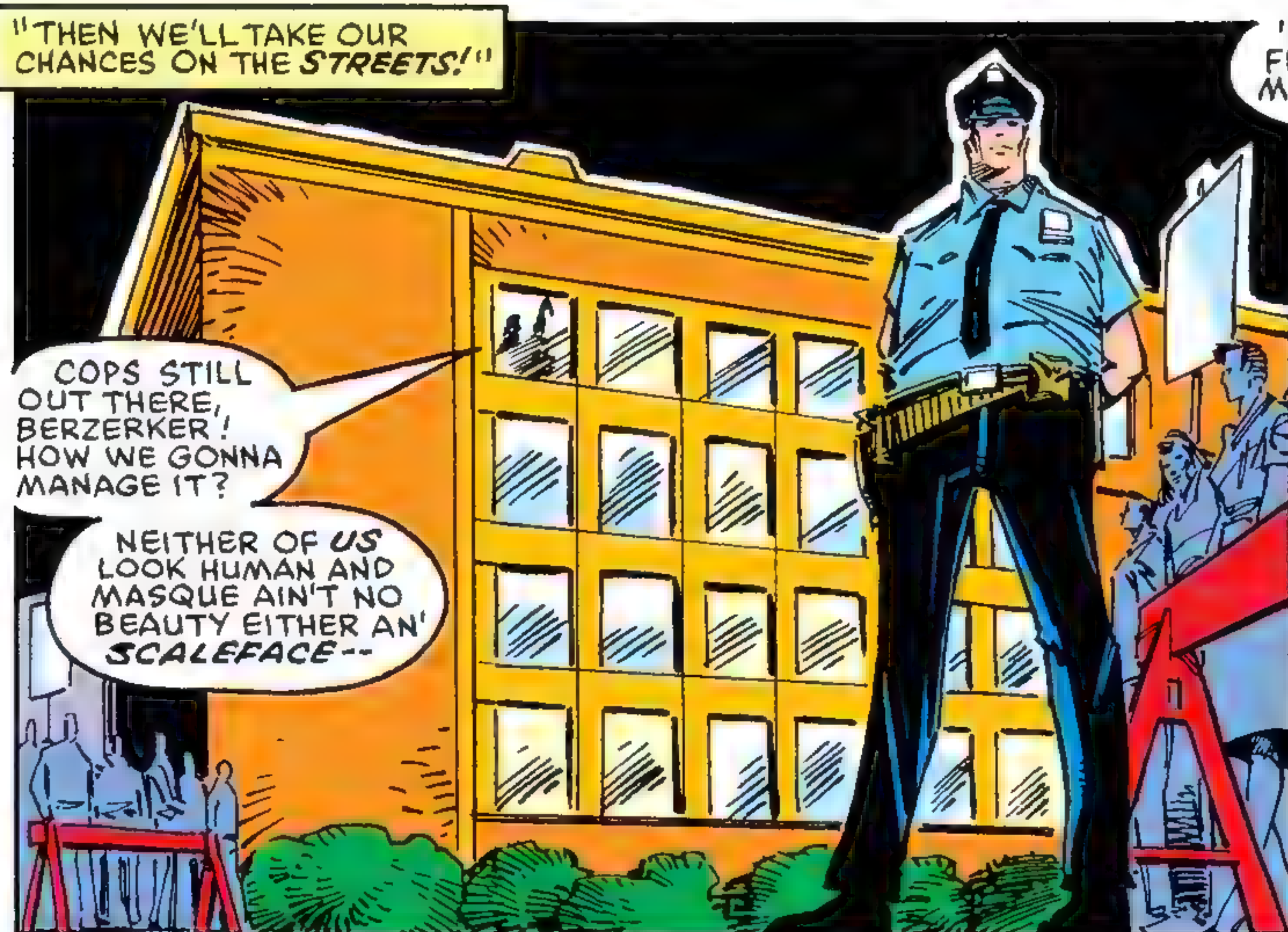
SOON, IN THE MIDST OF A PRO-ANGEL DEMONSTRATION OUTSIDE THE X-FACTOR COMPLEX...



"THEN WE'LL TAKE OUR CHANCES ON THE STREETS!"

COPS STILL OUT THERE, BERZERKER! HOW WE GONNA MANAGE IT?

NEITHER OF US LOOK HUMAN AND MASQUE AIN'T NO BEAUTY EITHER AN' SCALEFACE--



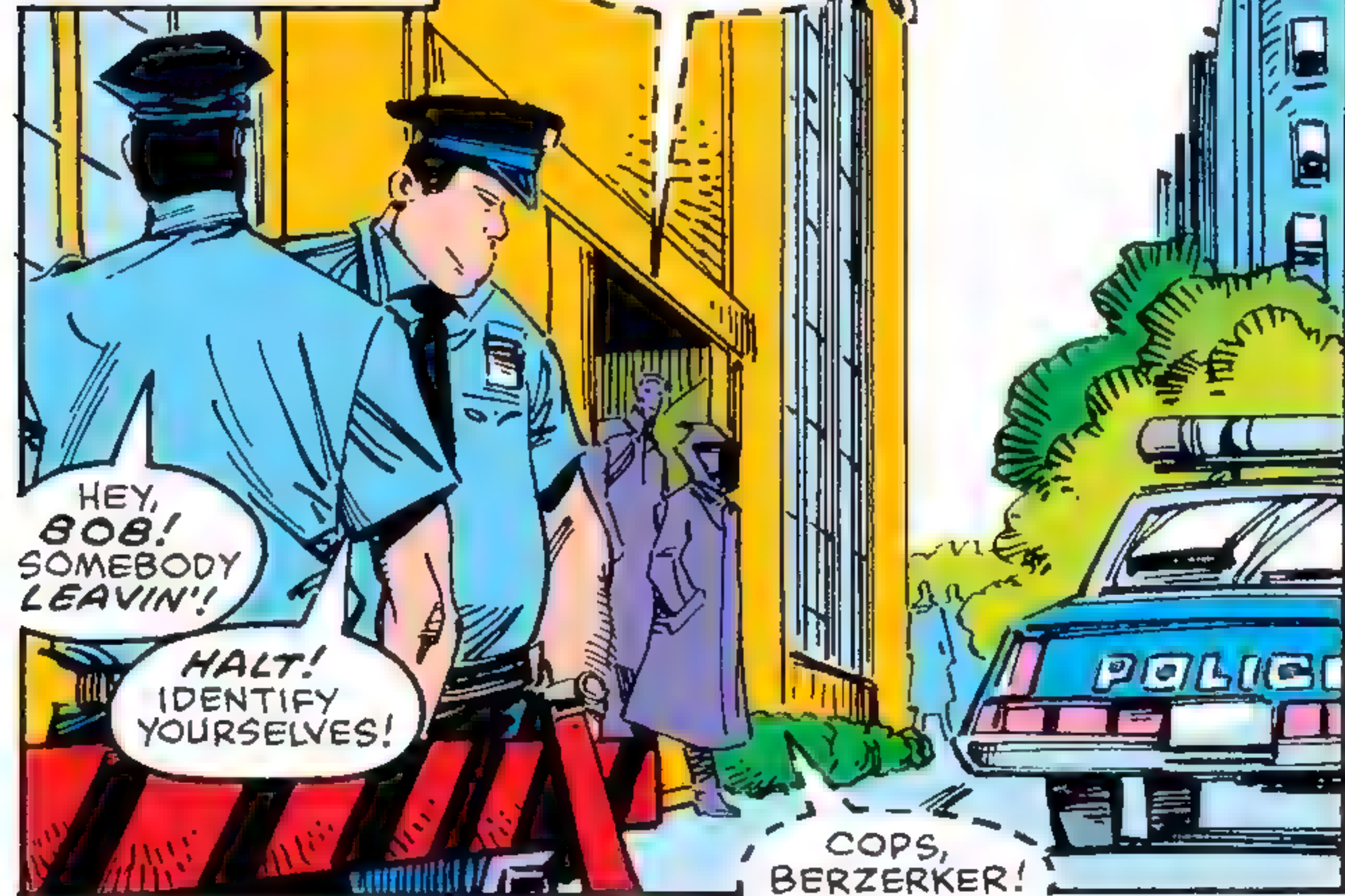
'EY--MASQUE'LL FIX YA SO YOUR OWN MA WON'T RECOGNIZE YA--



WE'LL SETTLE FOR HUMAN FACES, MASQUE. ANY FUNNY BUSINESS --I'LL FRY YOU!

"I'LL DO MY JOB, BERZERKER, YOU JUST GET US OUTTA HERE!"

MAGNETIC LOCKS-- COMPUTERIZED! EASY TO DISRUPT!



HEY, BOB! SOMEBODY LEAVIN'!

HALT! IDENTIFY YOURSELVES!

COPS, BERZERKER!

NO PROBLEM! COPS'RE EASIER TO DISRUPT THAN LOCKS!

BERZERKER, NO MORE KILLING, PLEASE... NOT UNLESS WE HAVE TO!



WE'RE THE... CLEANING STAFF! OUR SHIFT'S OVER AND--

RIGHT! YOU'RE FREE TO LEAVE!

I DUNNO, BOB! THERE'S SOMETHING WEIRD ABOUT THEM!

YOU'RE JUST SPOOKED, JOE! WHEN YOU BEEN ON THE STREETS LONG AS I HAVE, YOU'LL'VE SEEN A WHOLE LOT WEIRDER!



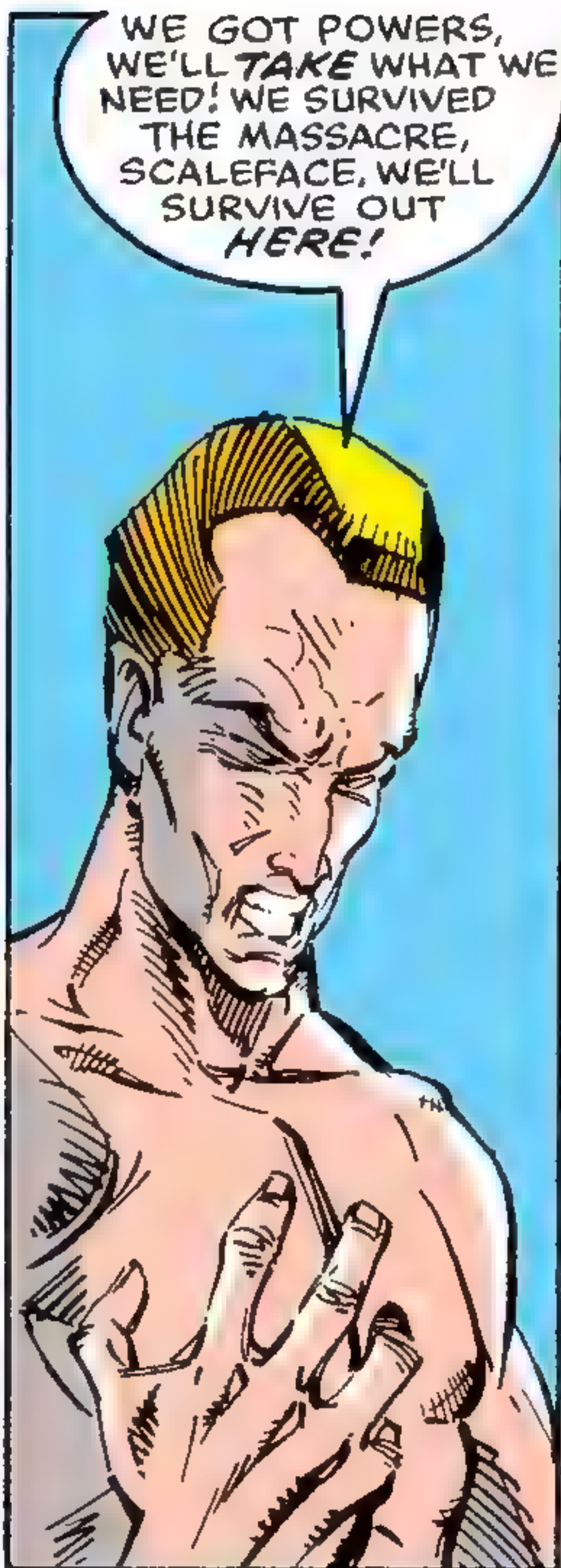
SOON, ON ONE OF THE HUDSON RIVER'S DILAPIDATED PIERS...



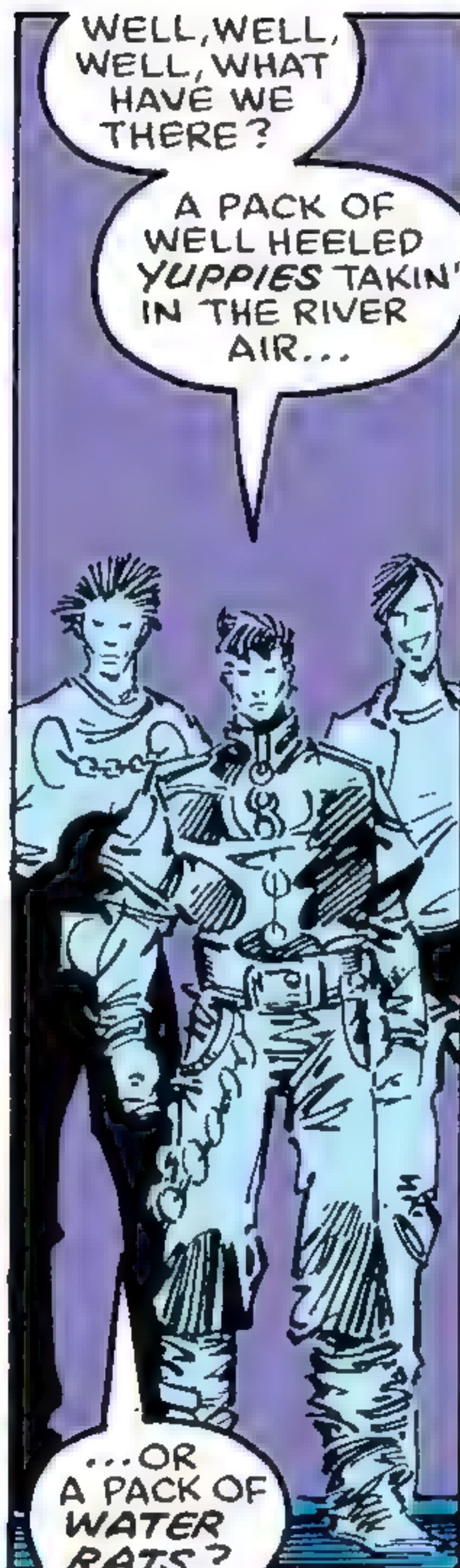
SO WHERE D'WE GO NOW, BERZERKER?

NEW JERSEY'S OVER THERE! A WHOLE NEW STATE...

...FULL OF THE SAME OLD PROBLEMS. THEY HATE US, BERZERKER! HOW'LL WE LIVE?



WE GOT POWERS, WE'LL TAKE WHAT WE NEED! WE SURVIVED THE MASSACRE, SCALEFACE, WE'LL SURVIVE OUT HERE!



WELL, WELL, WELL, WHAT HAVE WE THERE?

A PACK OF WELL HEeled YUPPIES TAKIN' IN THE RIVER AIR...

...OR A PACK OF WATER RATS?

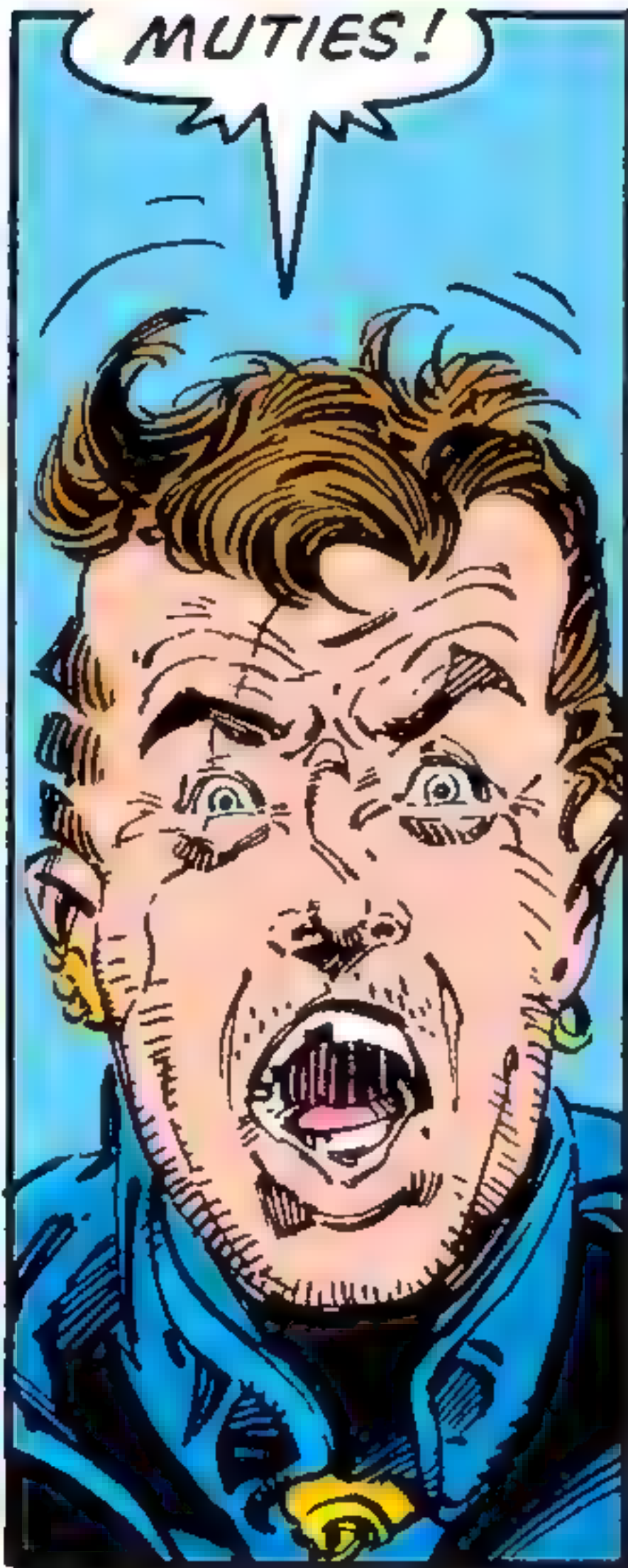
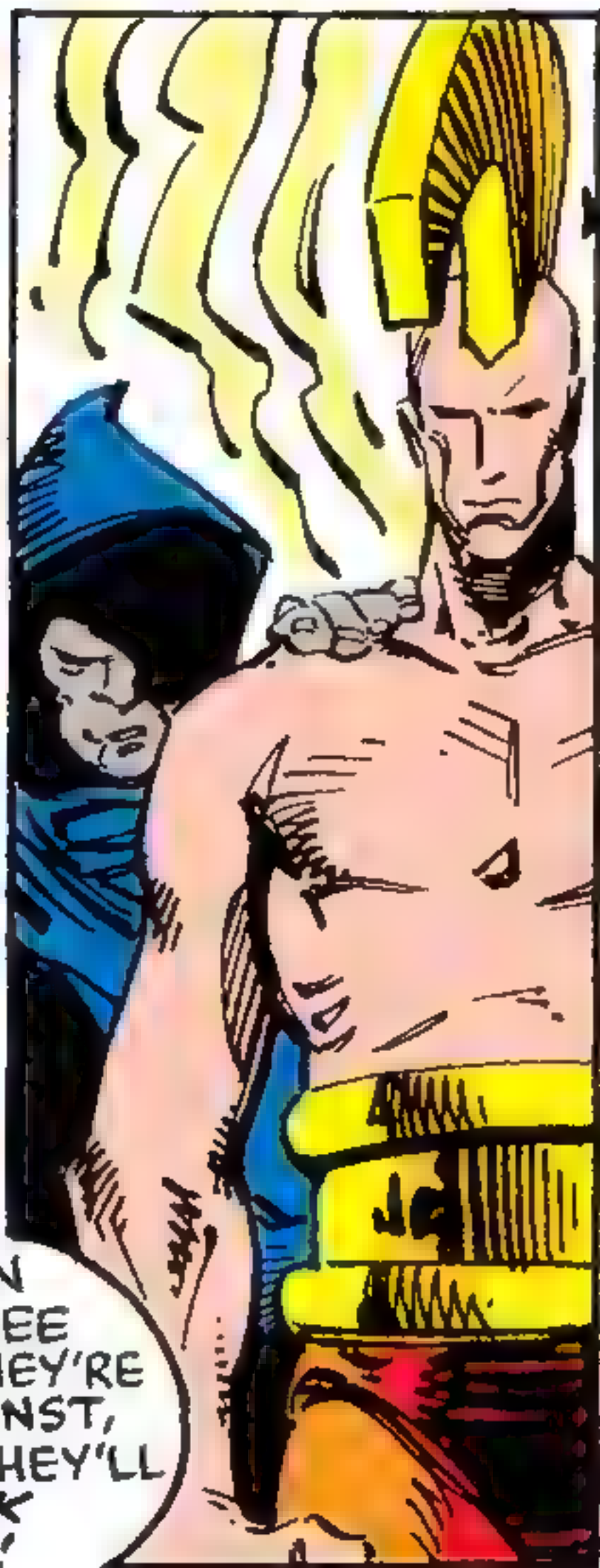


SLICE THE GUYS! THE GIRL'S MINE!

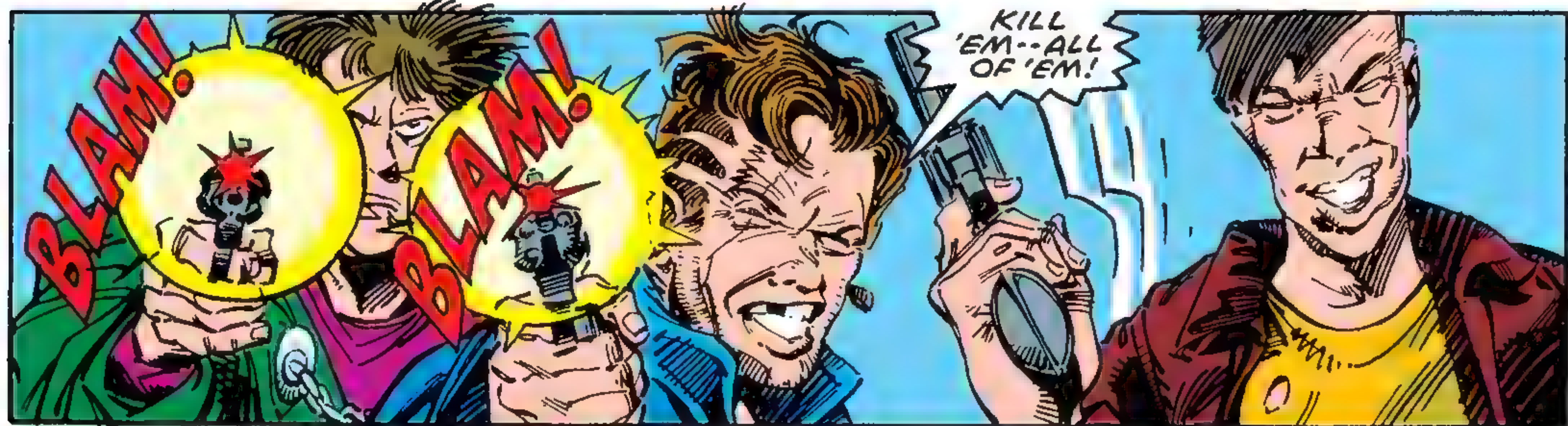


MASQUE, RESTORE BERZERKER QUICK!

WHEN THEY SEE WHAT THEY'RE UP AGAINST, MAYBE THEY'LL BACK OFF!



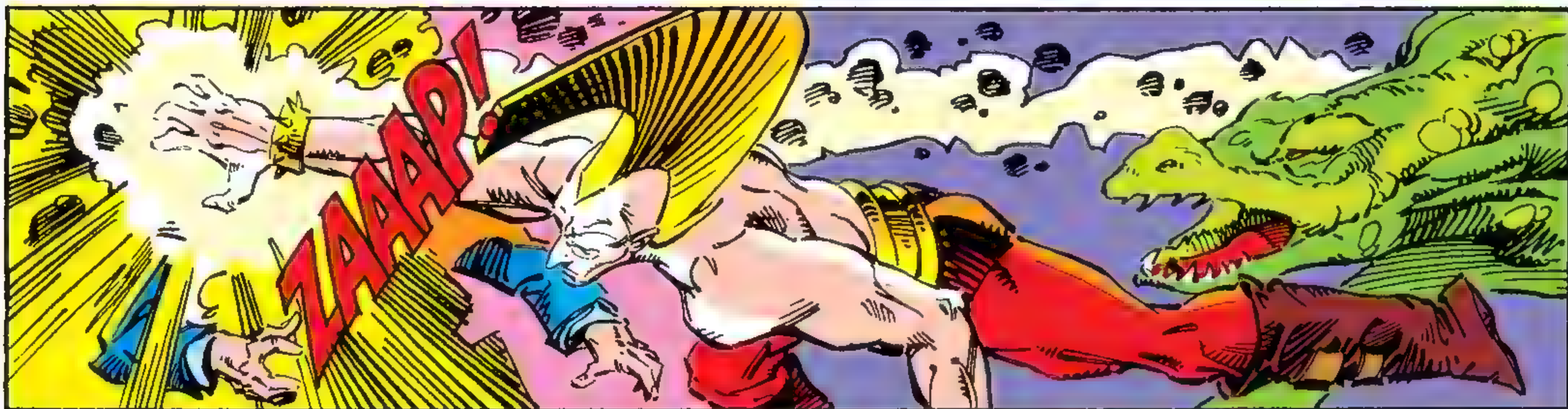
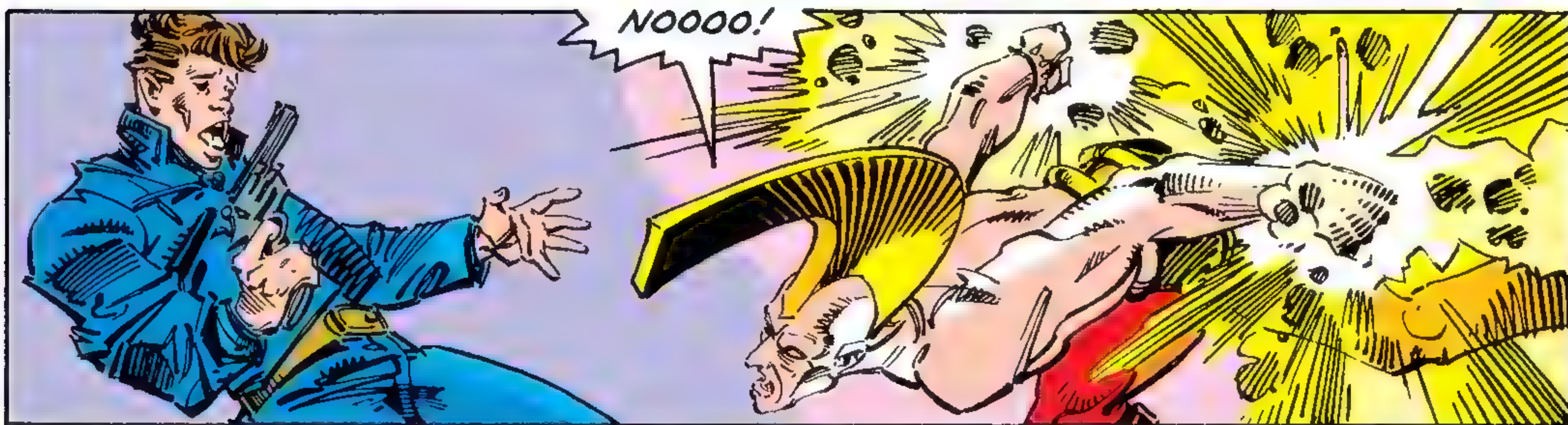
MUTIES!



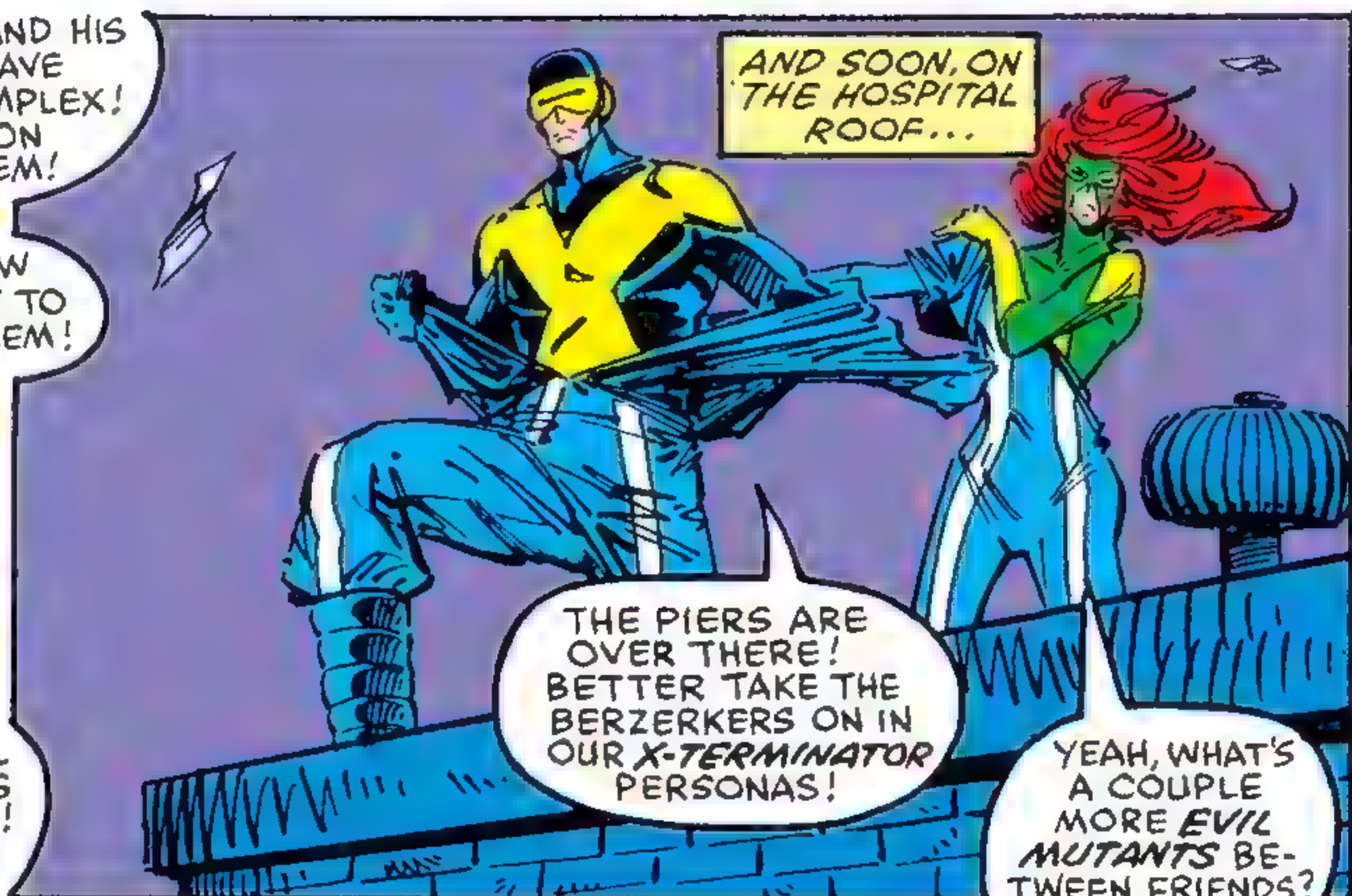
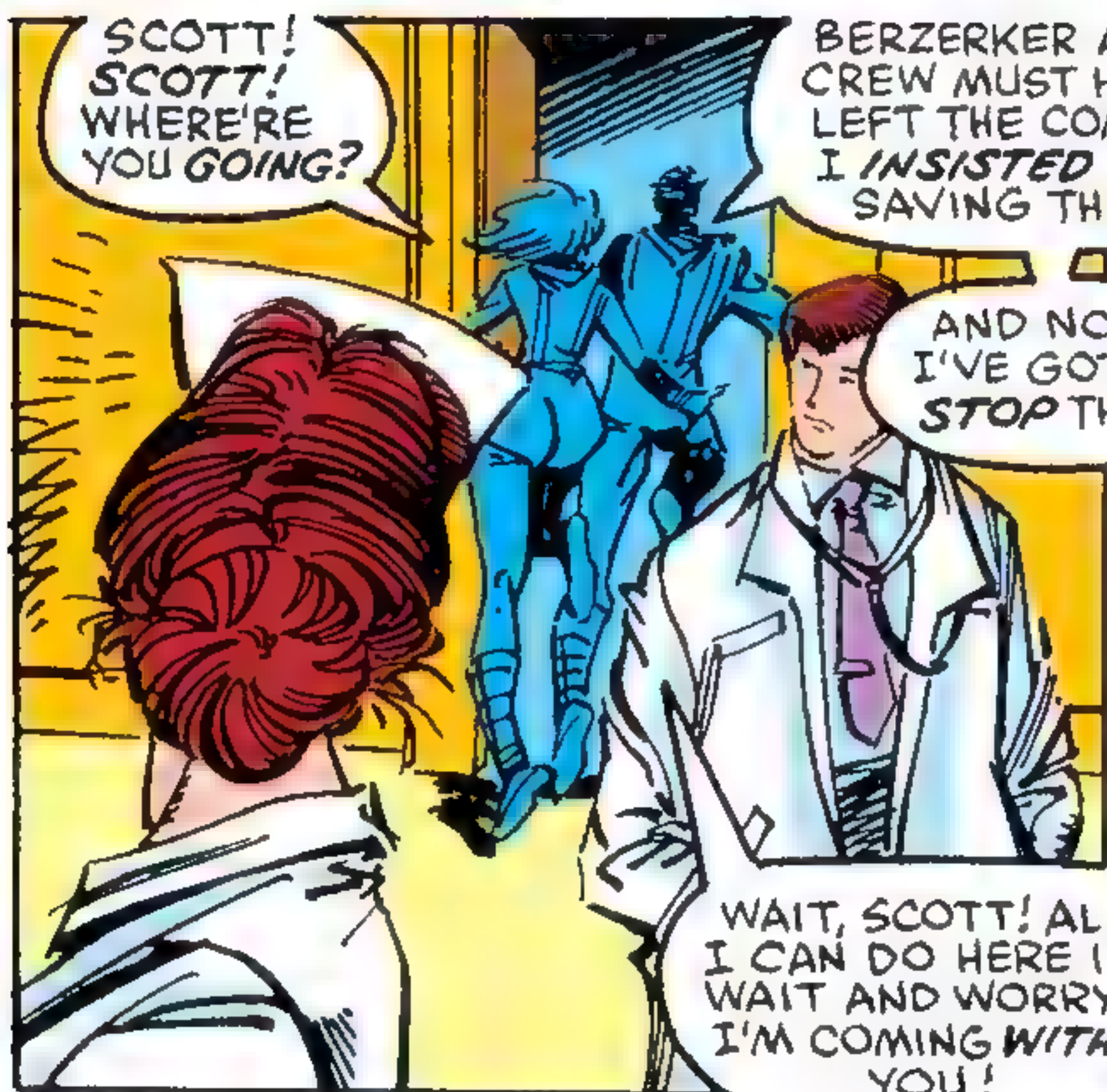
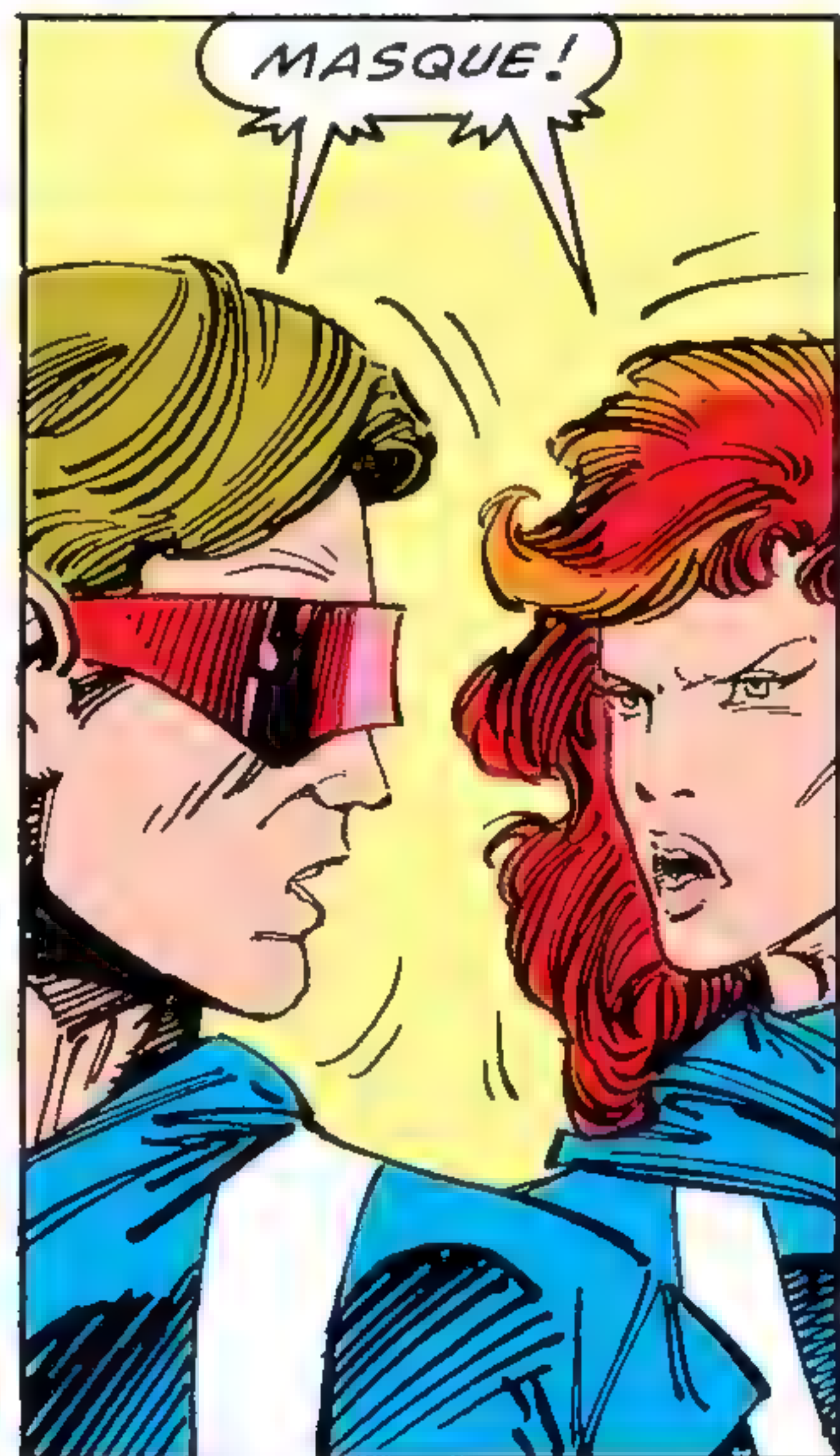
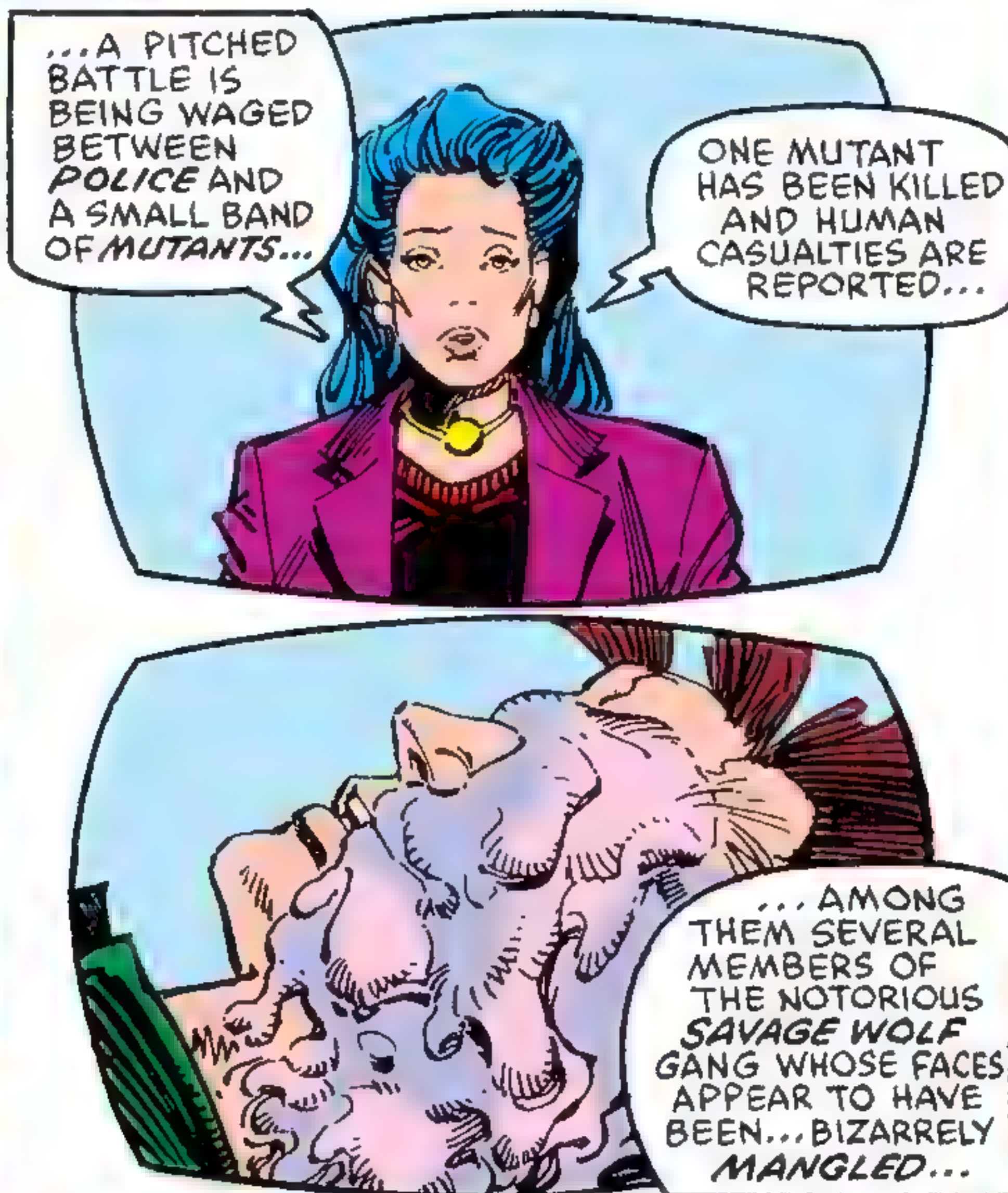
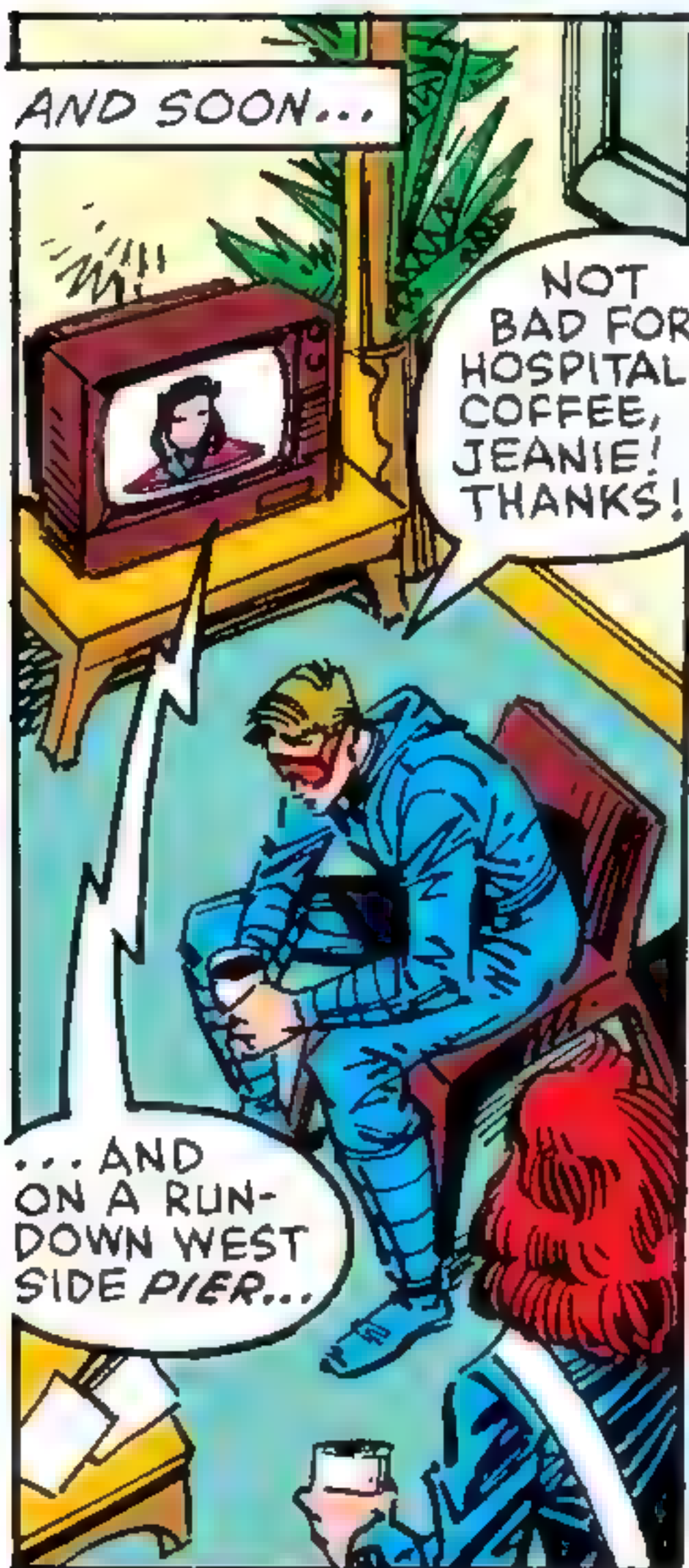
BLAM!

BLAM!

KILL 'EM--ALL OF 'EM!



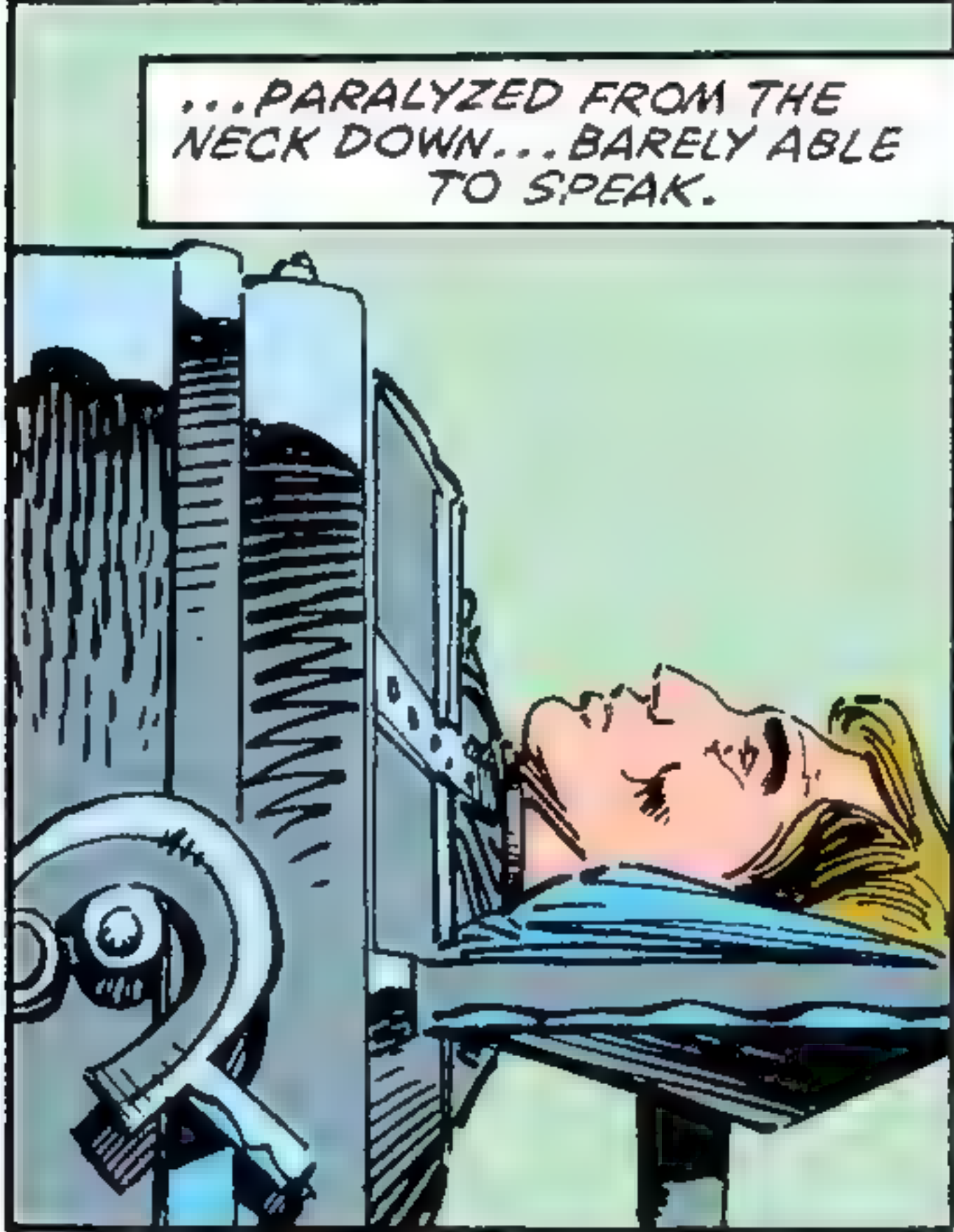
WHILE NOT FAR AWAY, AT ST. VINCENT'S HOSPITAL...





WHILE MILES AWAY, IN THE PARAPLEGIC WARD OF A VETERANS ADMINISTRATION HOSPITAL IN ATLANTA, GA....

...A SOLDIER NAMED ABRAHAM LINCOLN KIEROS LIES IN AN IRON LUNG...



...PARALYZED FROM THE NECK DOWN... BARELY ABLE TO SPEAK.

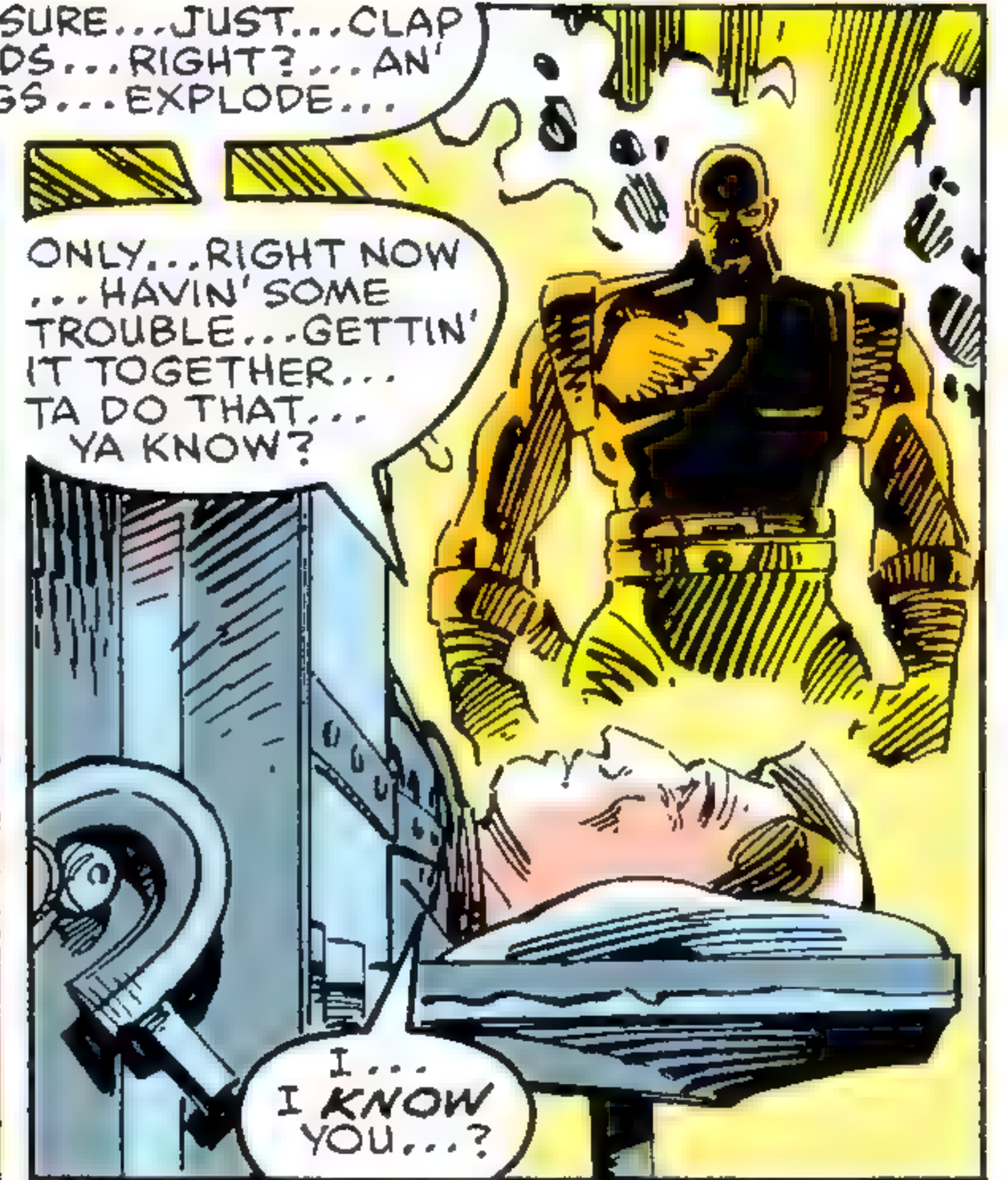


ALL OF THAT IS ABOUT TO CHANGE...

YOU HAVE GREAT POWER, ABRAHAM...



YEAH... SURE... JUST... CLAP MY HANDS... RIGHT?... AN' THINGS... EXPLODE...



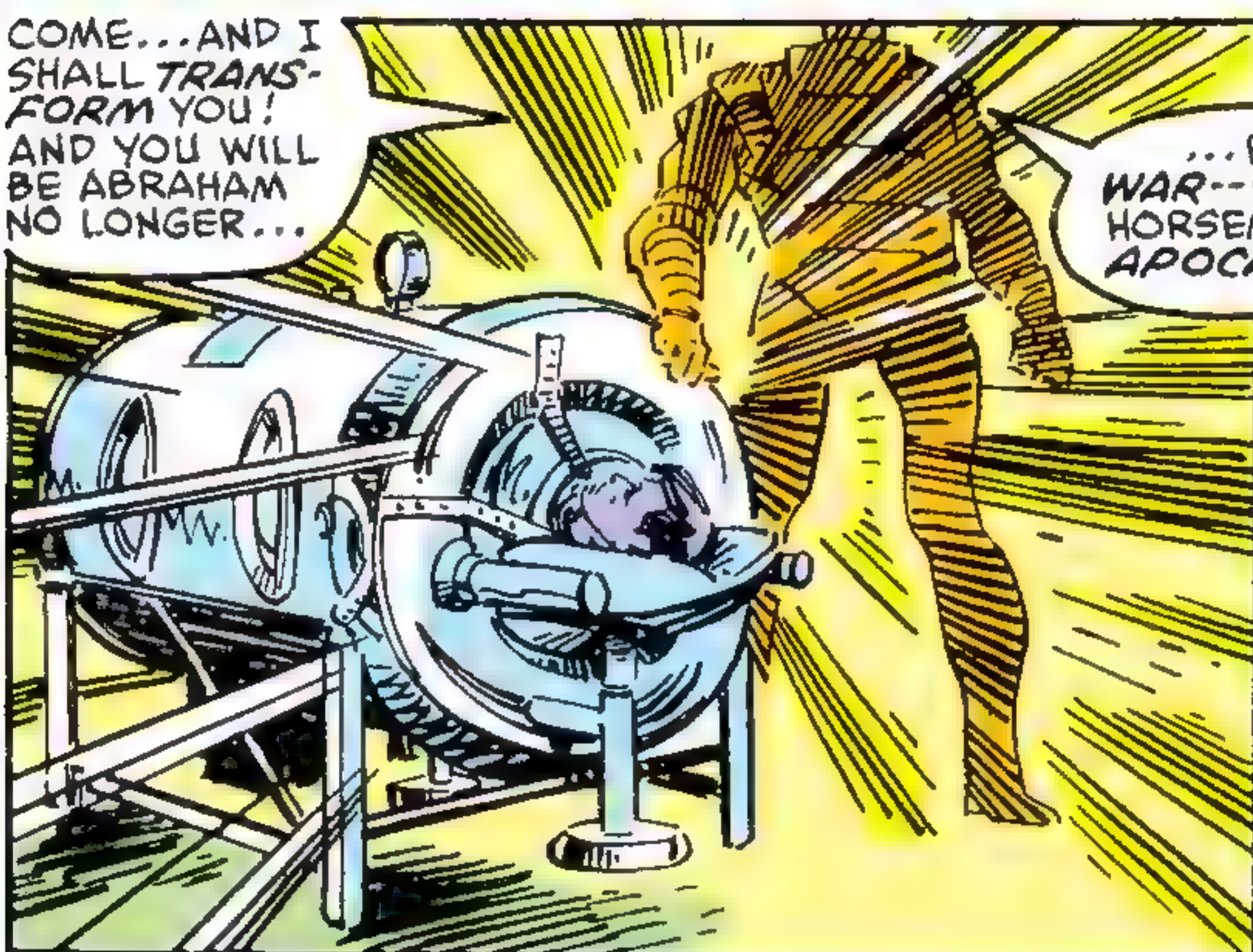
ONLY... RIGHT NOW... HAVIN' SOME TROUBLE... GETTIN' IT TOGETHER... TA DO THAT... YA KNOW?

I... I KNOW YOU...?



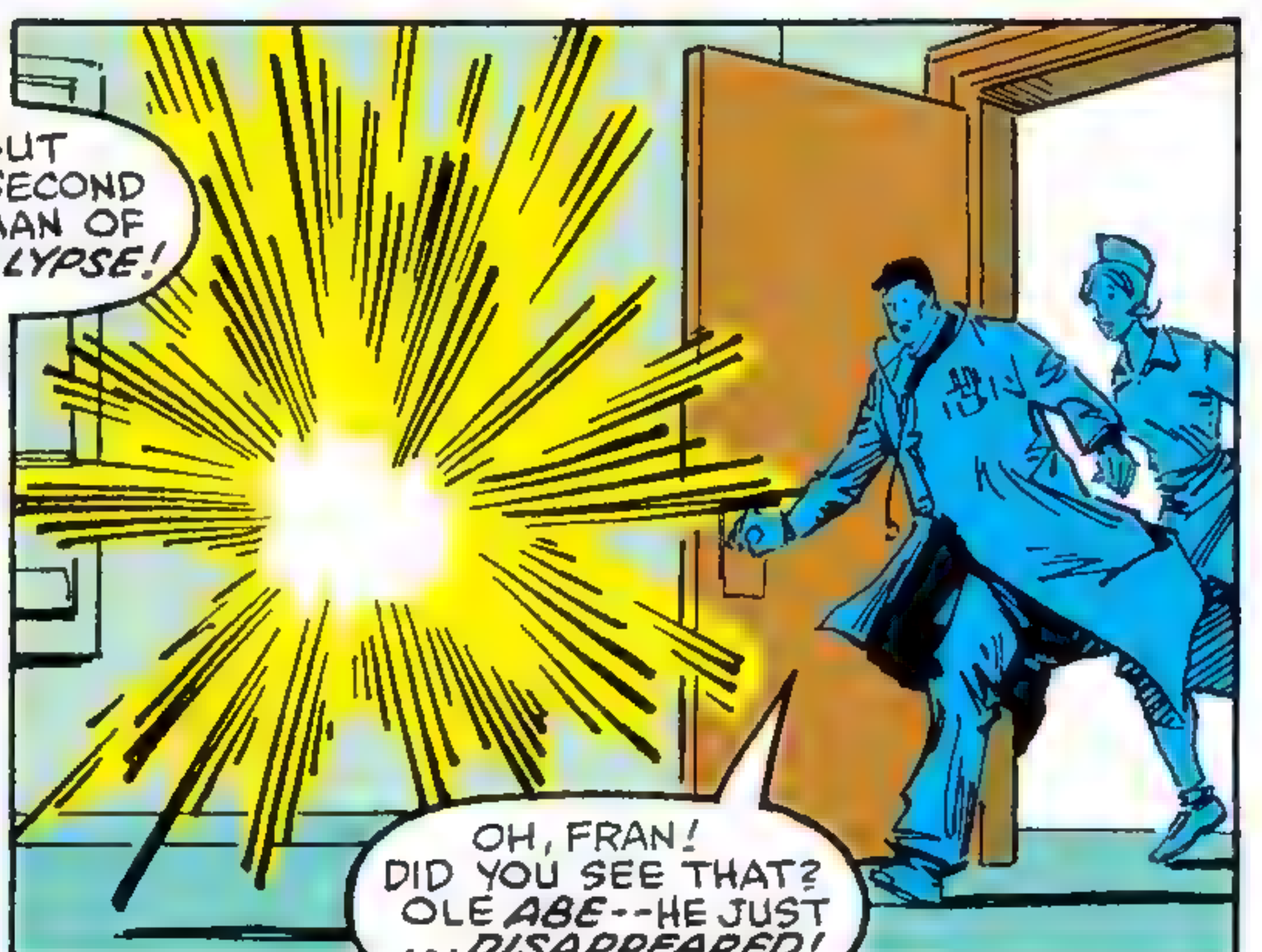
NOT NOW, ABRAHAM, BUT YOU WILL! I HAVE CHOSEN YOU, FOR YOU ARE WORTHY...

...AND IN THAT IRON COFFIN YOUR POWER IS WASTED!

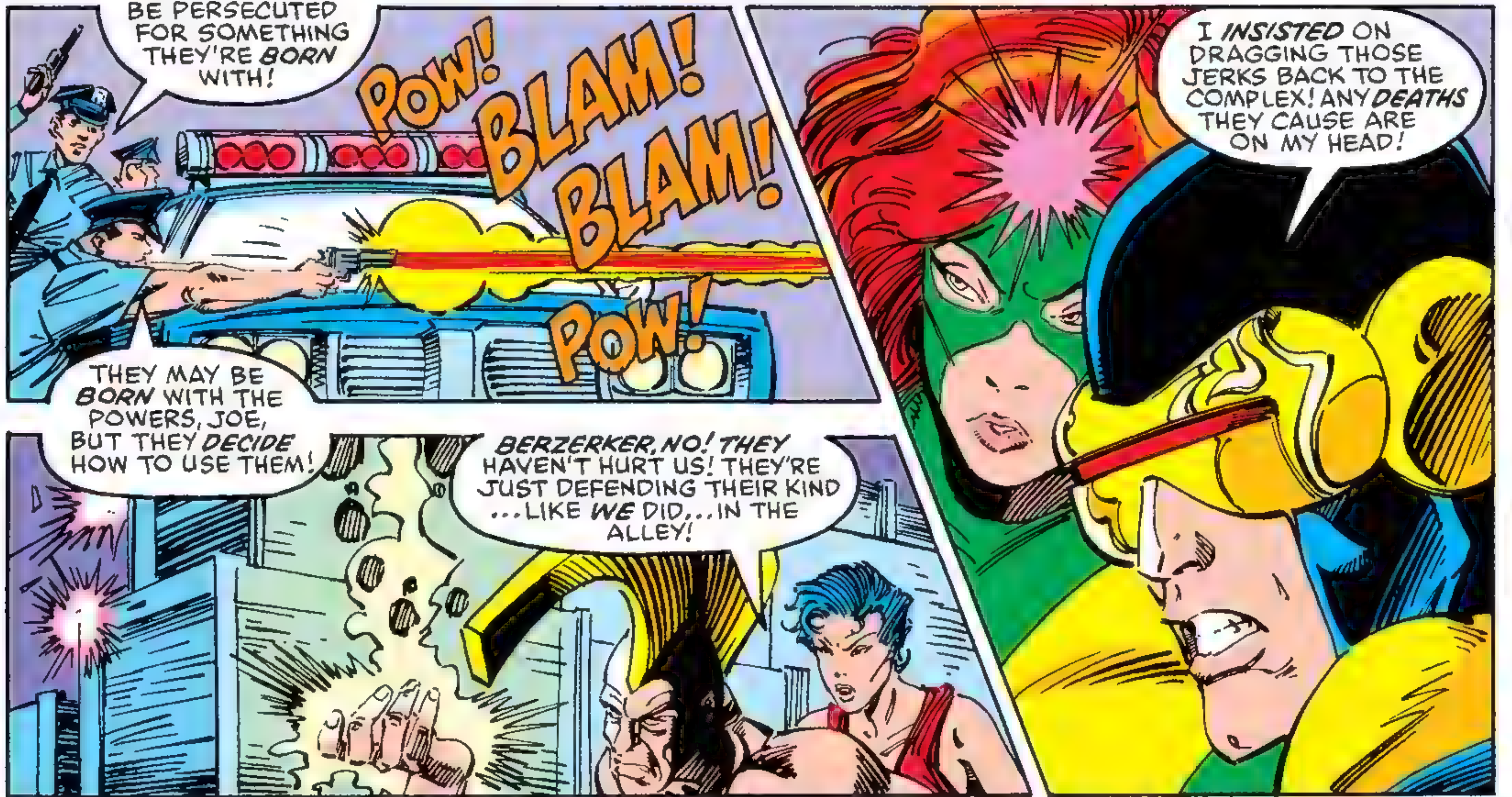


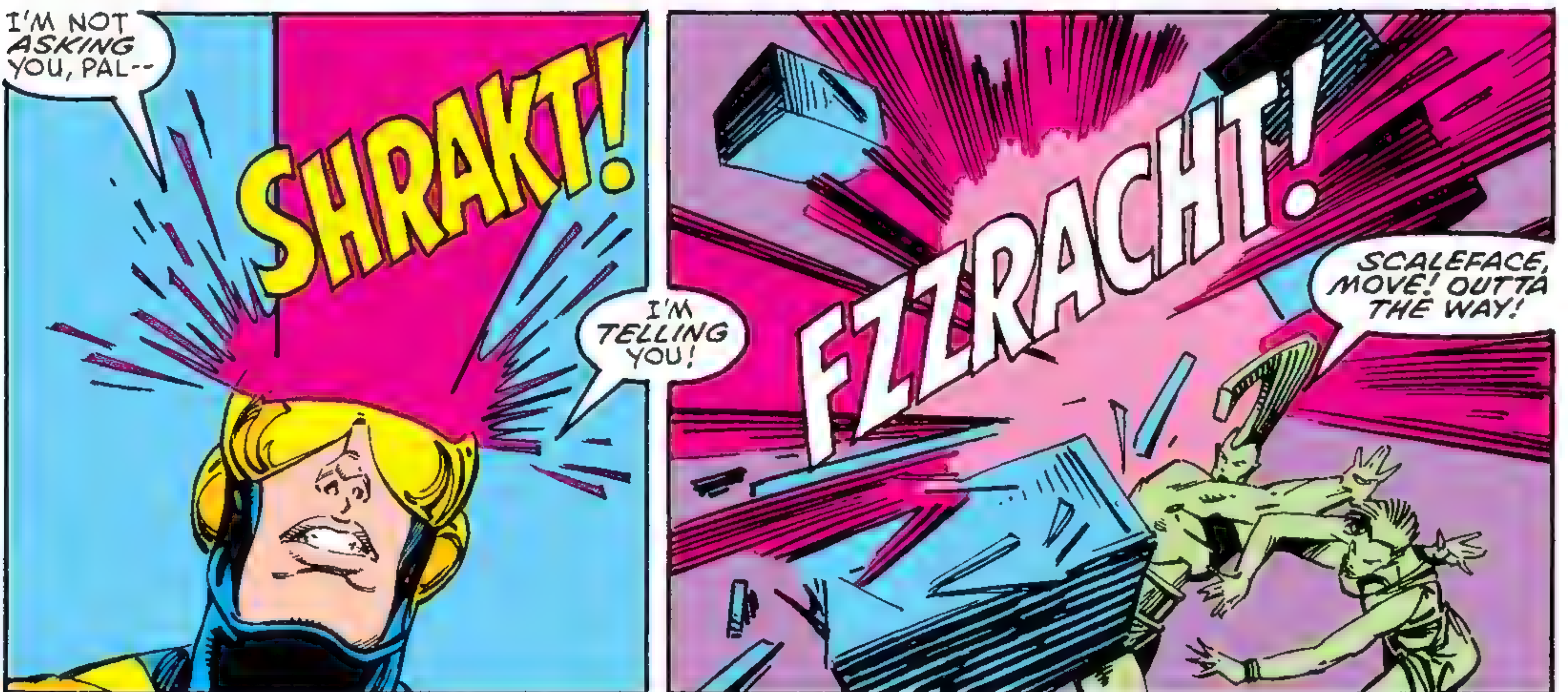
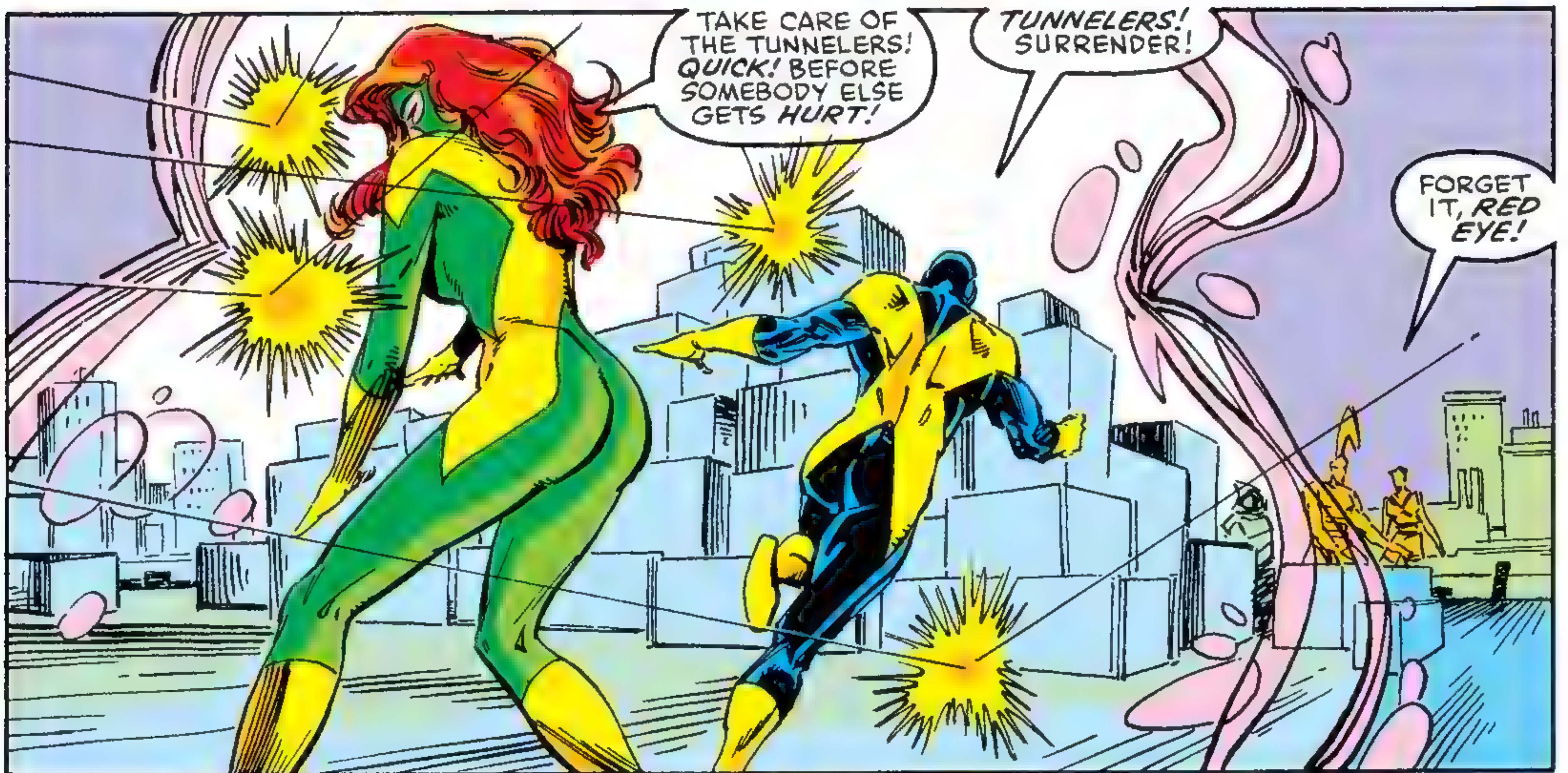
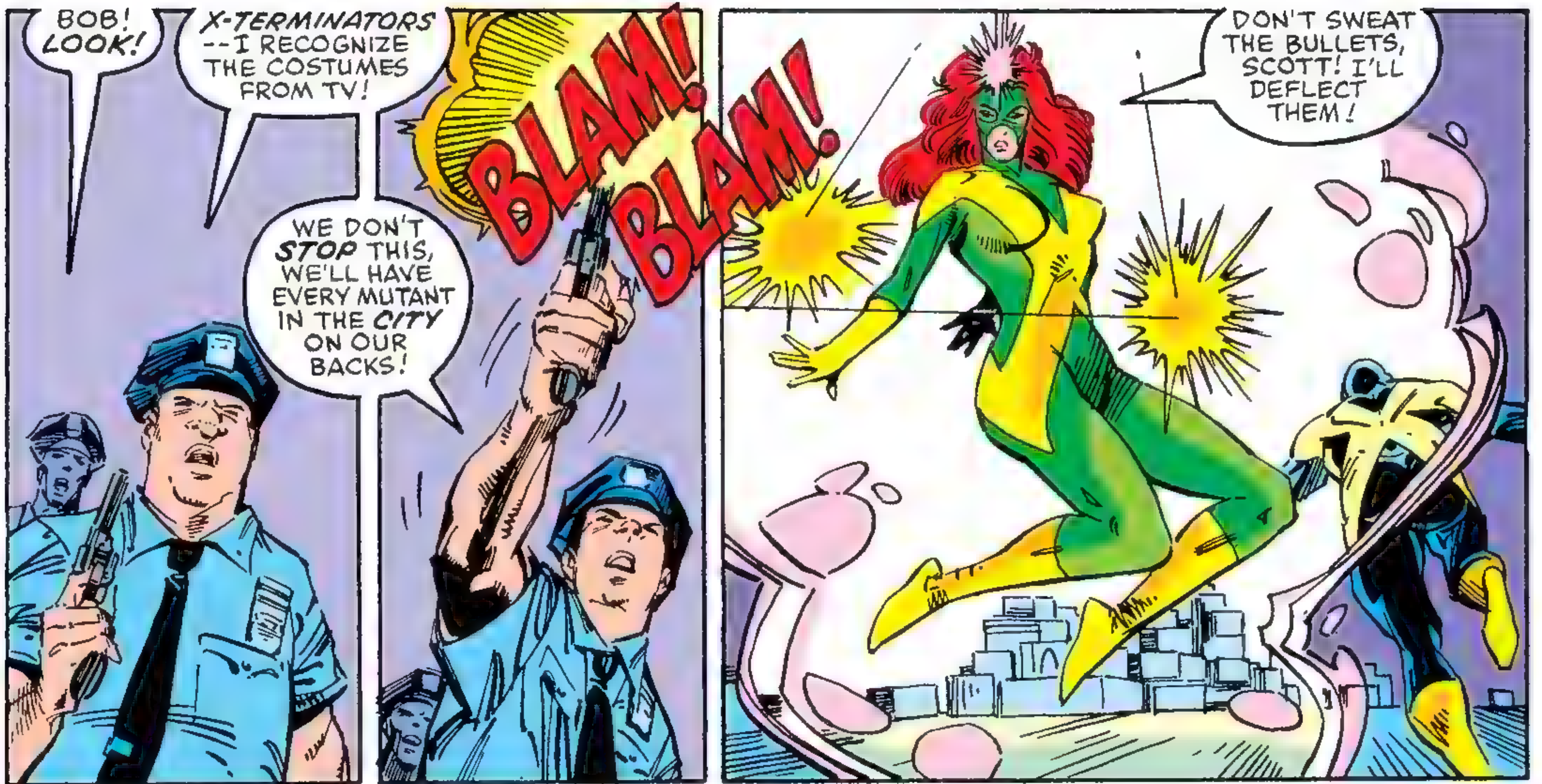
COME... AND I SHALL TRANSFORM YOU! AND YOU WILL BE ABRAHAM NO LONGER...

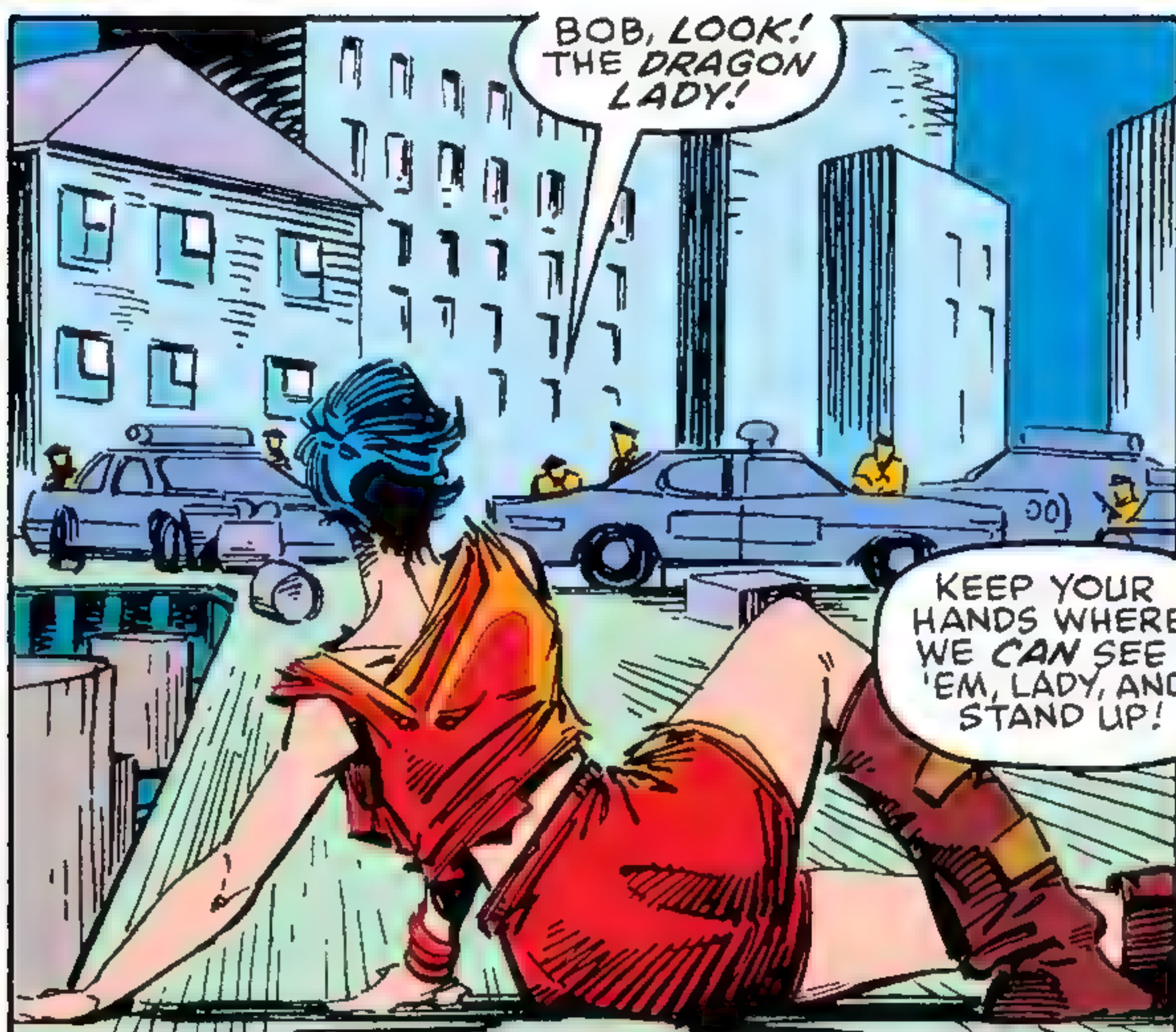
...BUT WAR--SECOND HORSEMAN OF APOCALYPSE!



OH, FRAN! DID YOU SEE THAT? OLE ABE--HE JUST ...DISAPPEARED!







BOB, LOOK!
THE DRAGON
LADY!

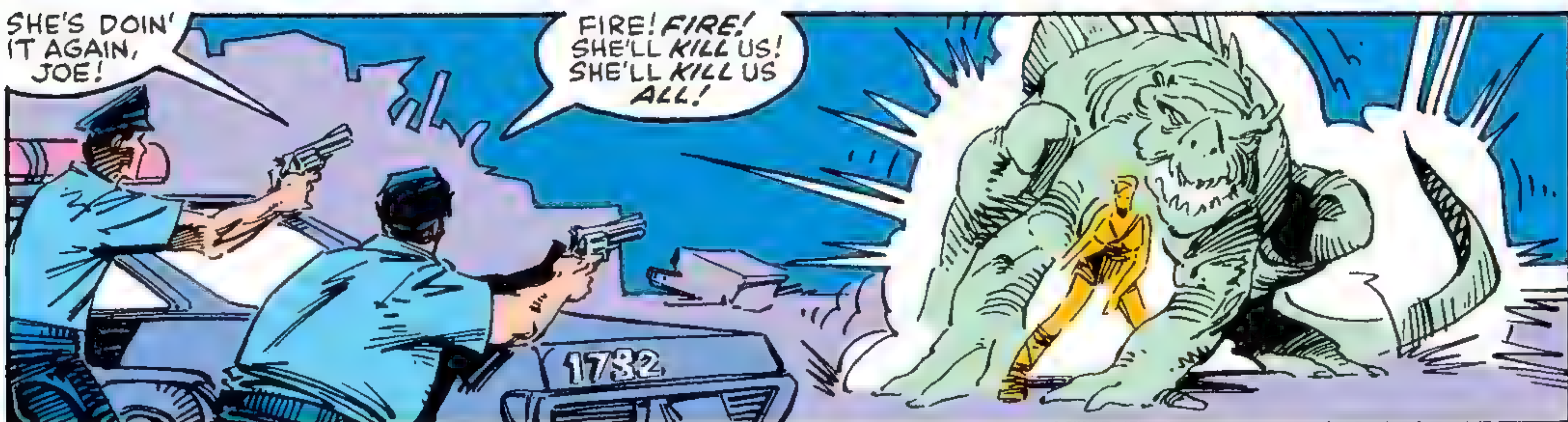
KEEP YOUR
HANDS WHERE
WE CAN SEE
'EM, LADY, AND
STAND UP!



NO! I WON'T
LET YOU TAKE
ME!

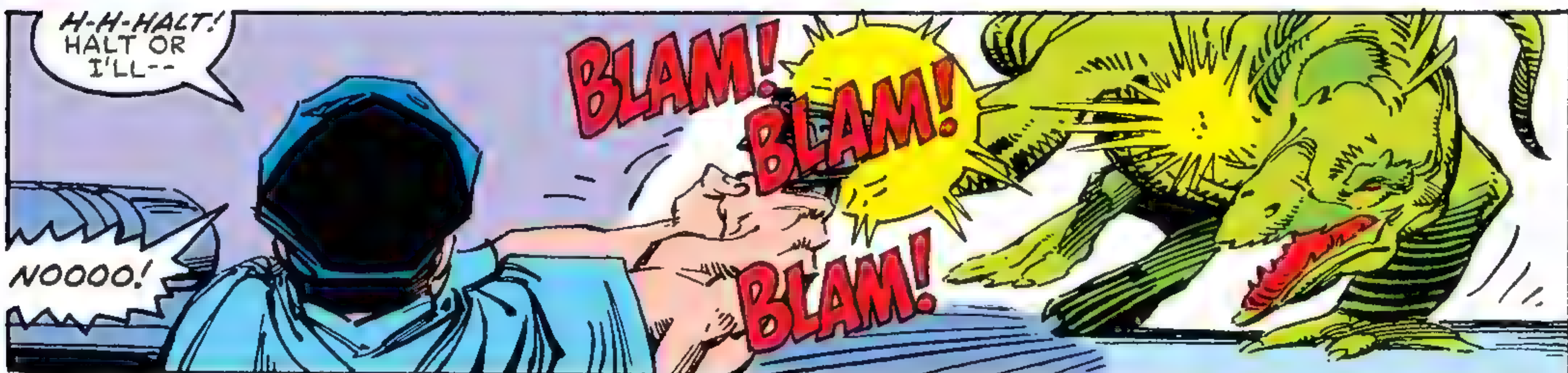


I
WON'T!



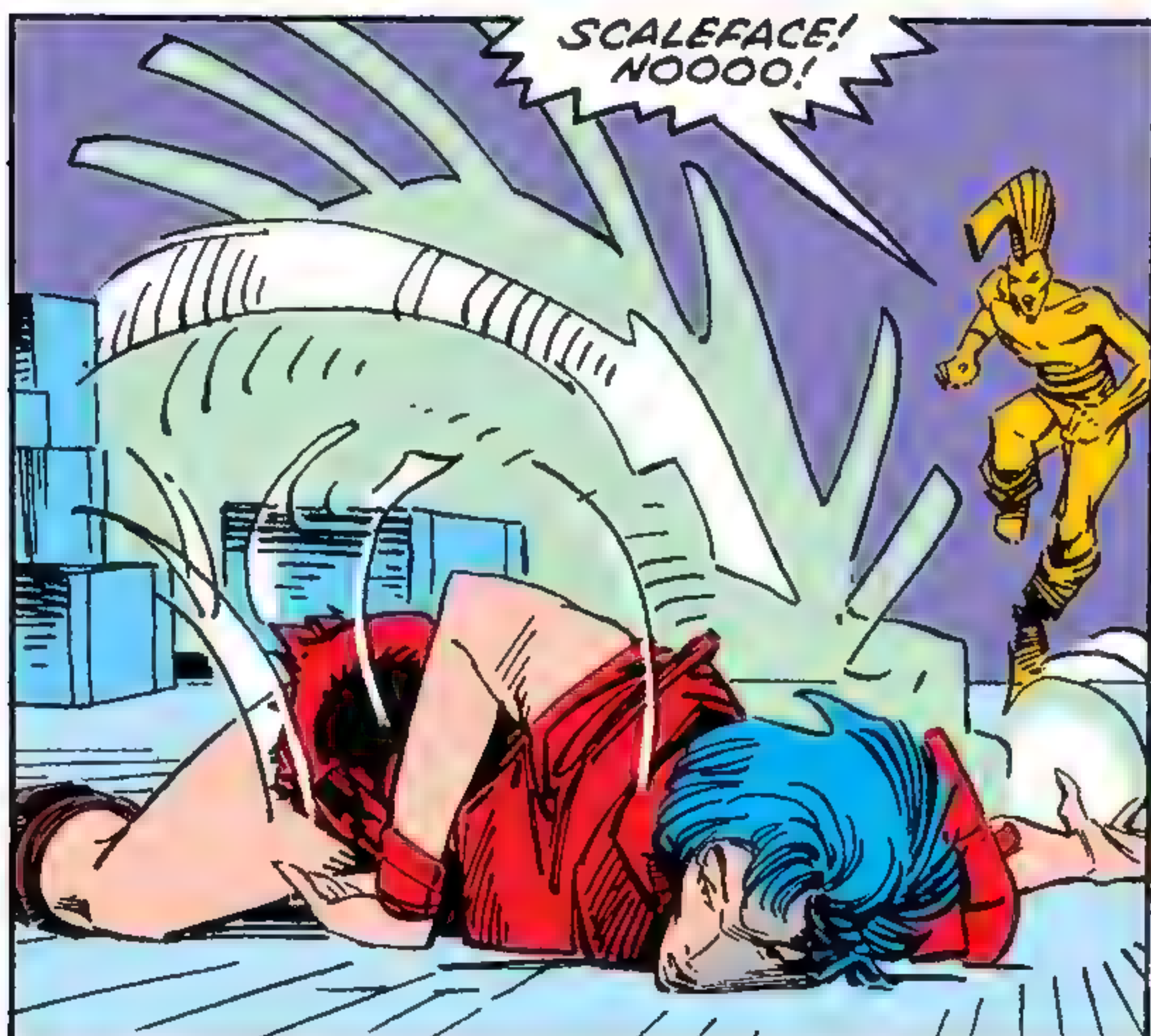
SHE'S DOIN'
IT AGAIN,
JOE!

FIRE! FIRE!
SHE'LL KILL US!
SHE'LL KILL US
ALL!



H-H-HALT!
HALT OR
I'LL--

BLAM!
BLAM!
BLAM!



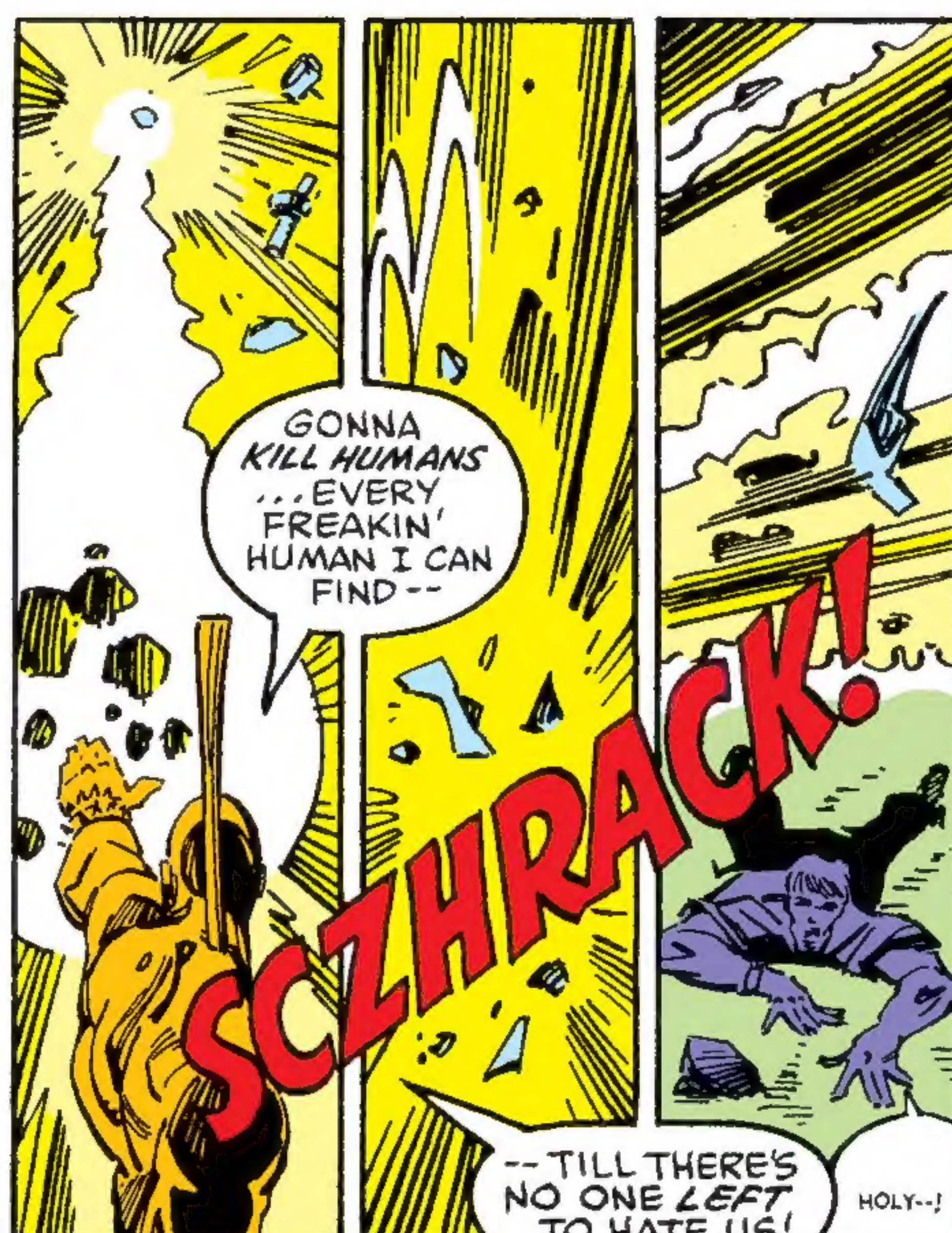
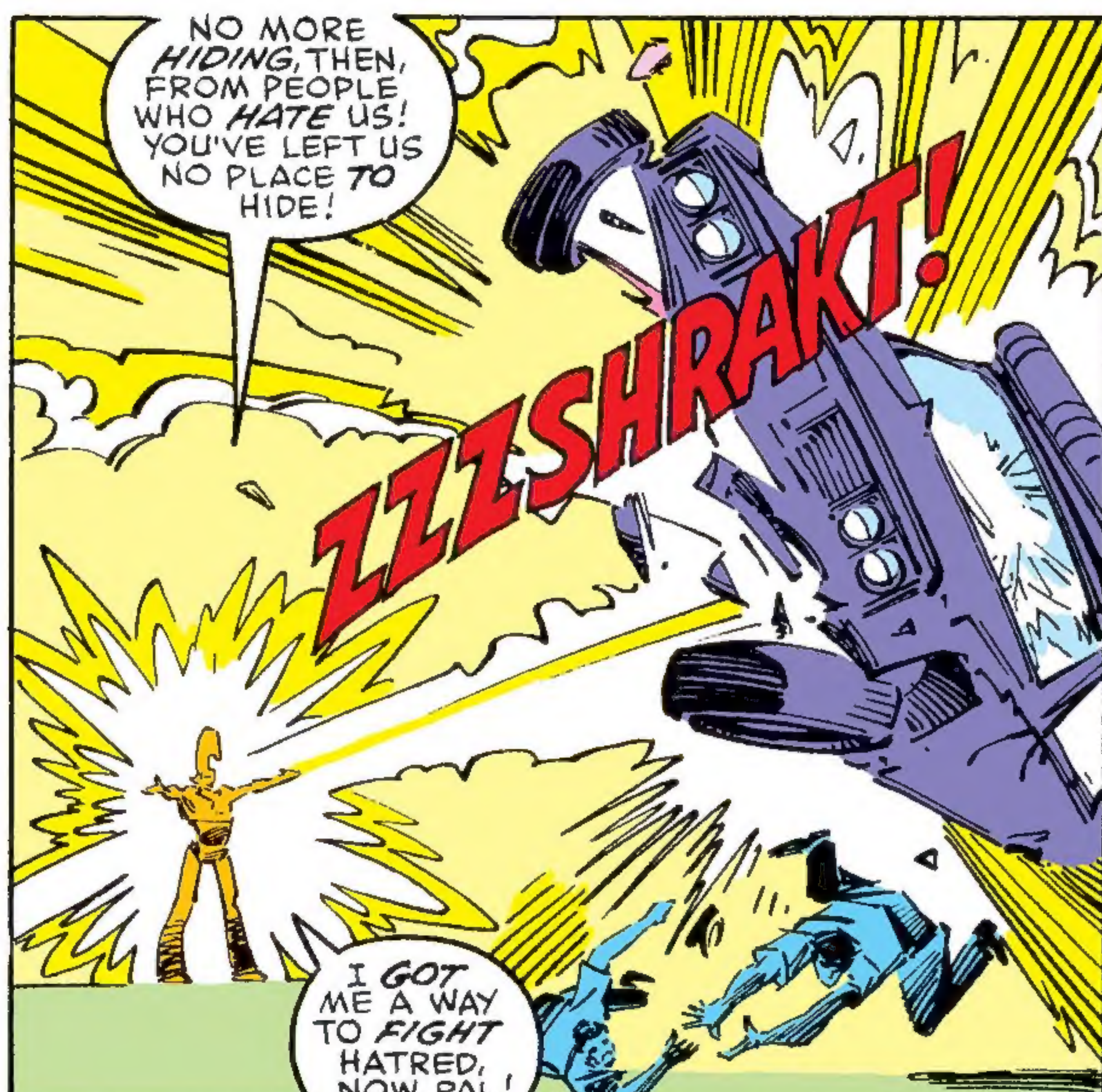
SCALEFACE!
NOOOO!



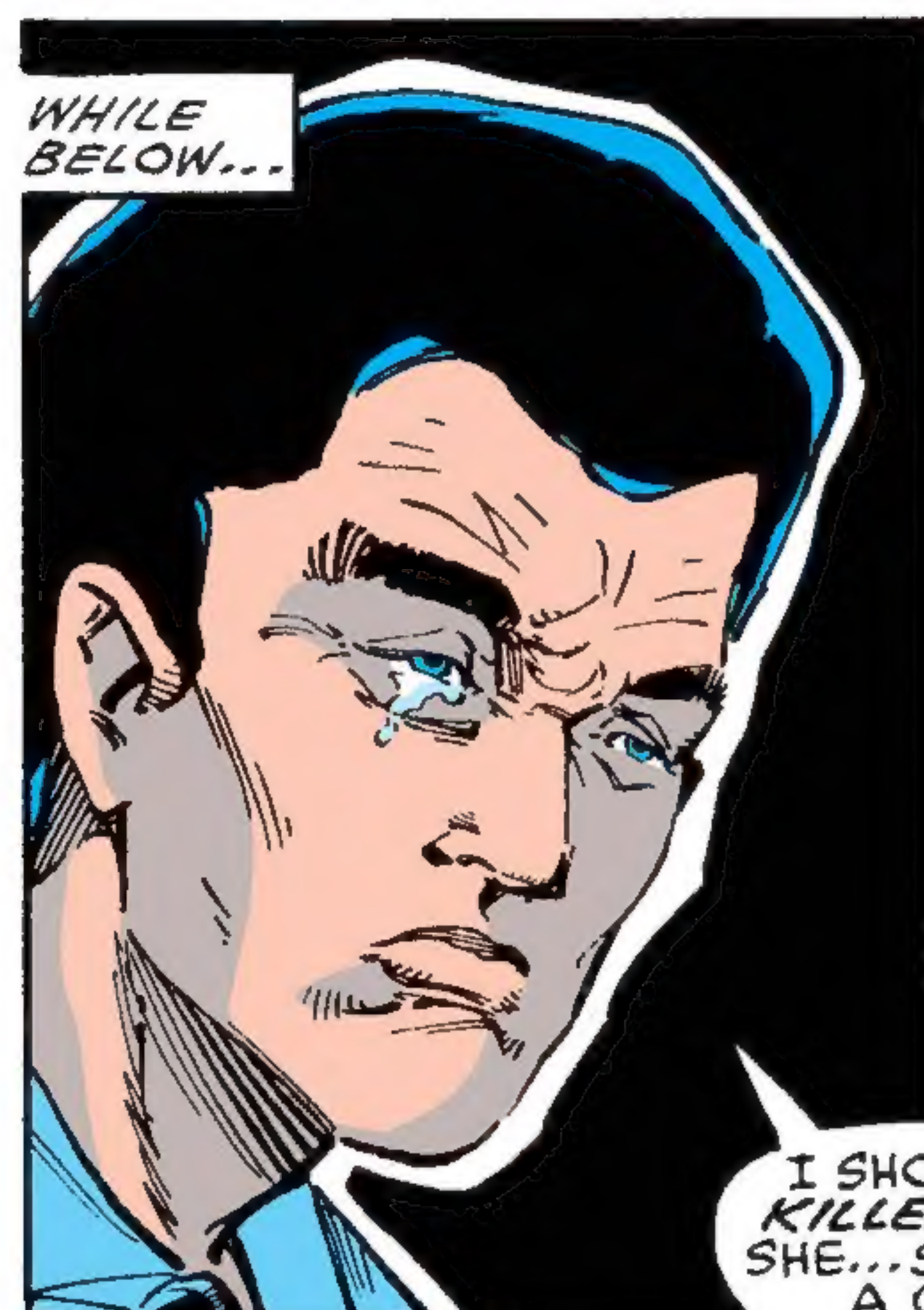
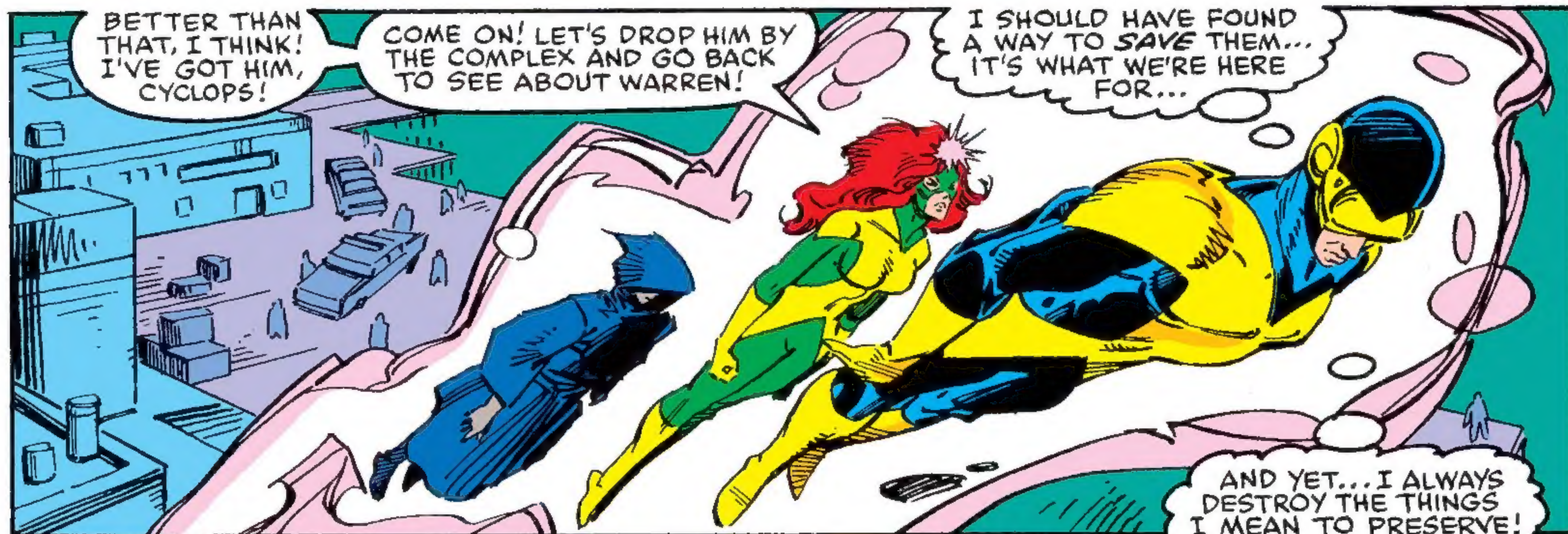
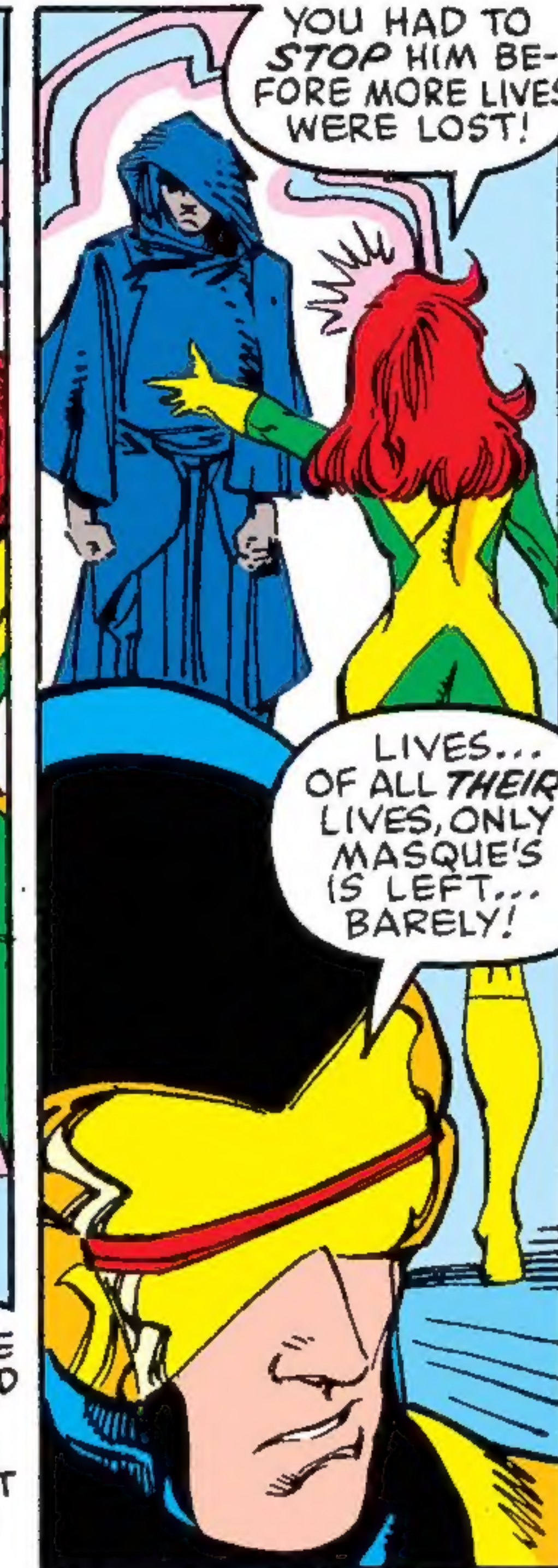
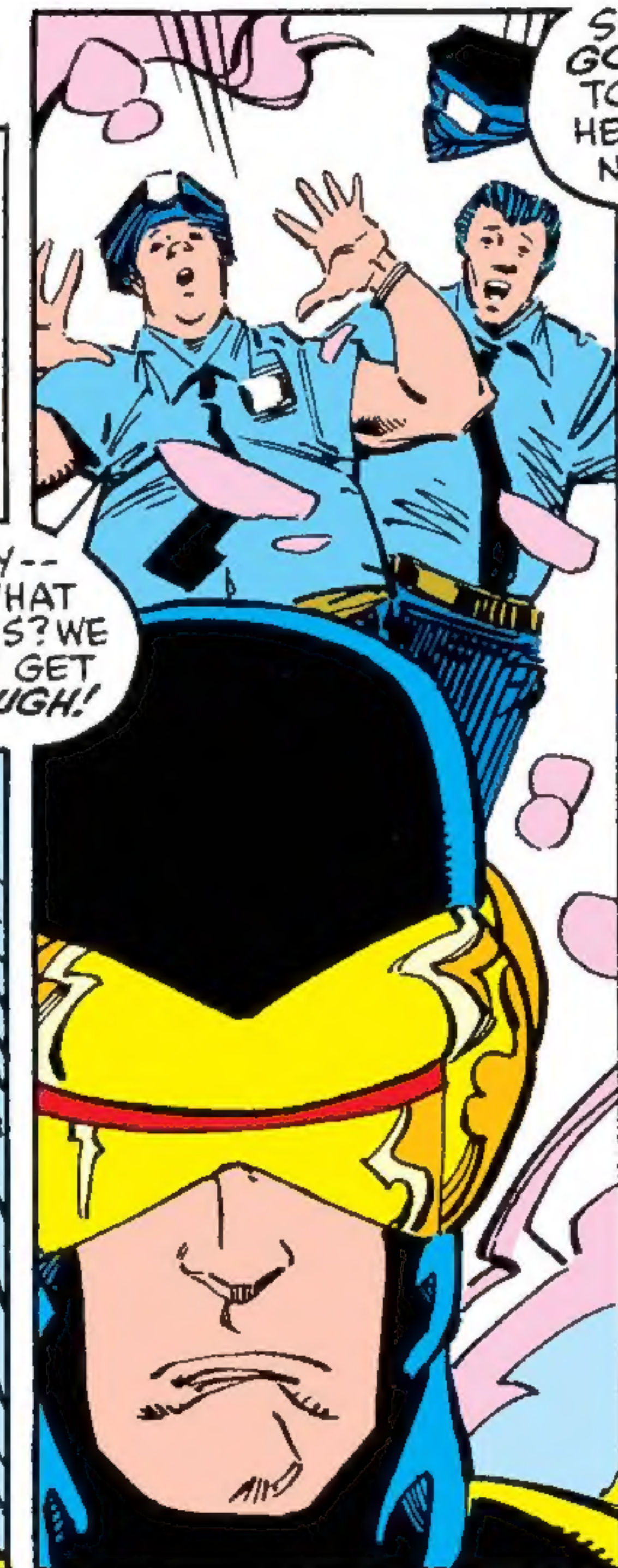
GONE... ALL
OF THEM...
GONE!

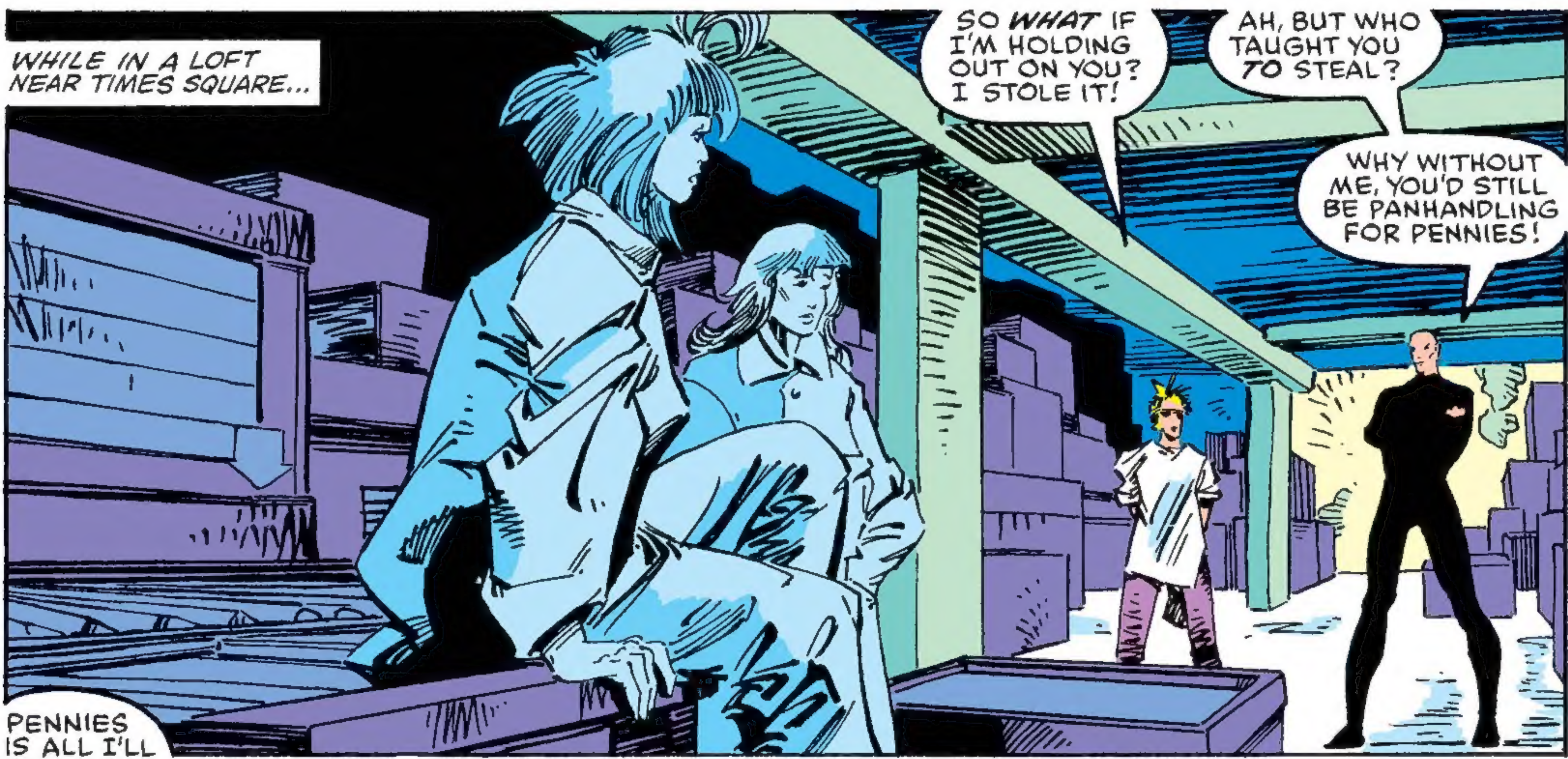
SHE WOULDN'T
HAVE HURT YOU!
SHE SAID... YOU
WERE JUST DE-
FENDING YOUR
KIND...

SHE SAID...
SHE WAS TIRED
OF HIDING...
AND OF
KILLING!



...AND THOUGH SCOTT SEARCHES THE WATER DESPERATELY, BERZERKER IS SEEN NO MORE!





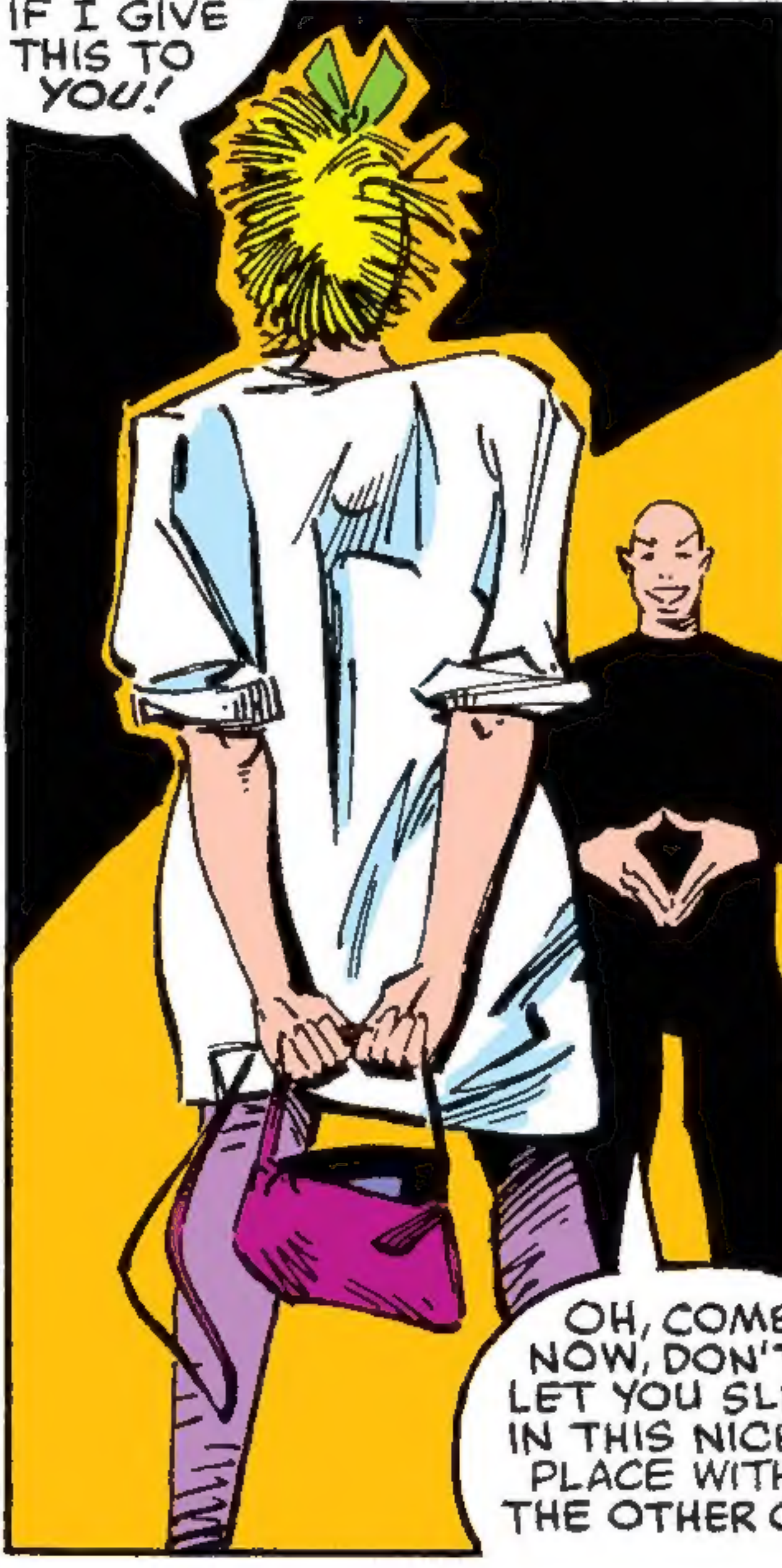
WHILE IN A LOFT
NEAR TIMES SQUARE...

SO WHAT IF
I'M HOLDING
OUT ON YOU?
I STOLE IT!

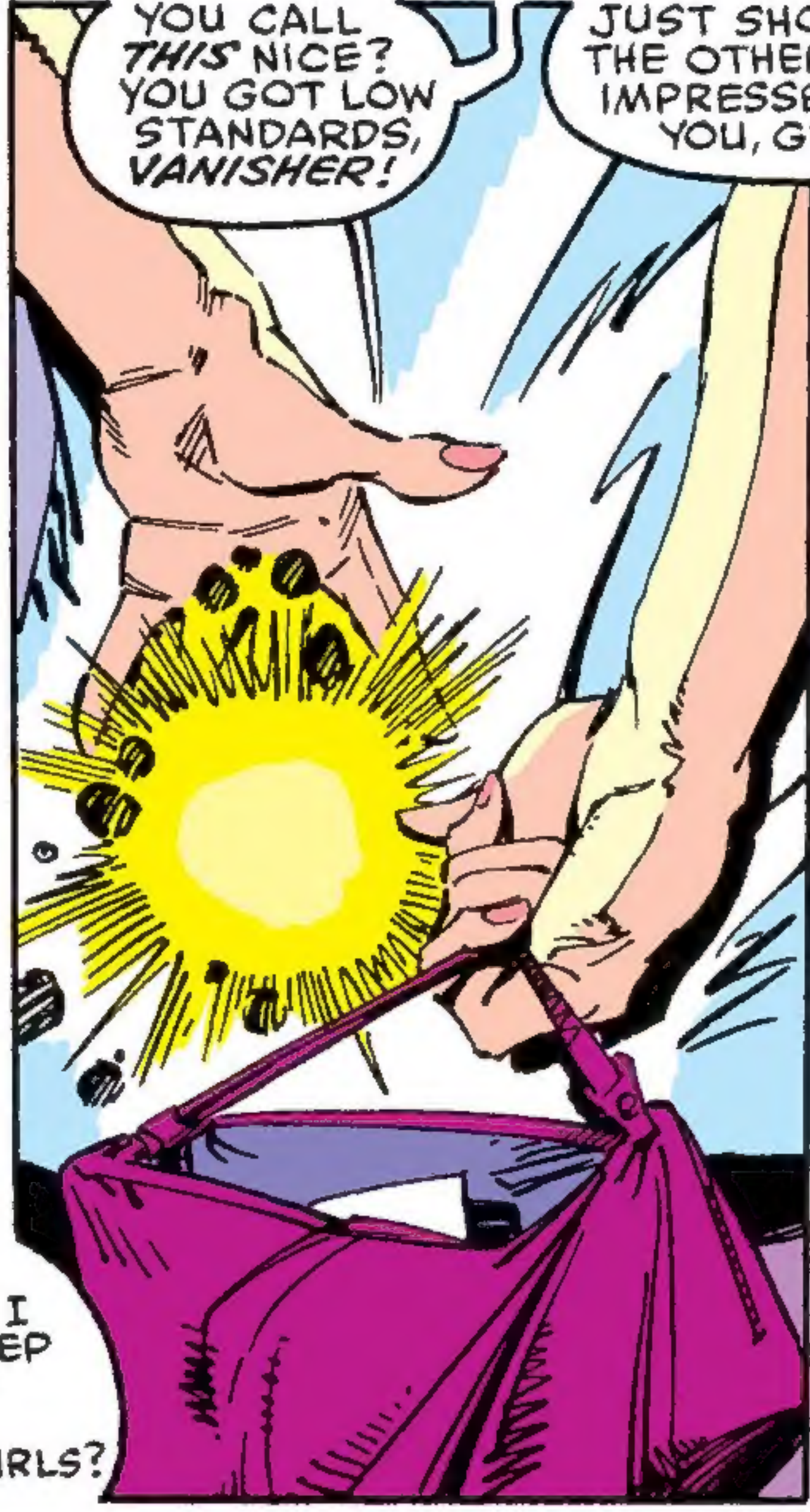
AH, BUT WHO
TAUGHT YOU
TO STEAL?

WHY WITHOUT
ME, YOU'D STILL
BE PANHANDLING
FOR PENNIES!

PENNIES
IS ALL I'LL
HAVE LEFT,
IF I GIVE
THIS TO
YOU!



OH, COME
NOW, DON'T I
LET YOU SLEEP
IN THIS NICE
PLACE WITH
THE OTHER GIRLS?



YOU CALL
THIS NICE?
YOU GOT LOW
STANDARDS,
VANISHER!

JUST SHOW ME, BOOM BOOM,
THE OTHERS WILL BE SO
IMPRESSED, WON'T
YOU, GIRLS?

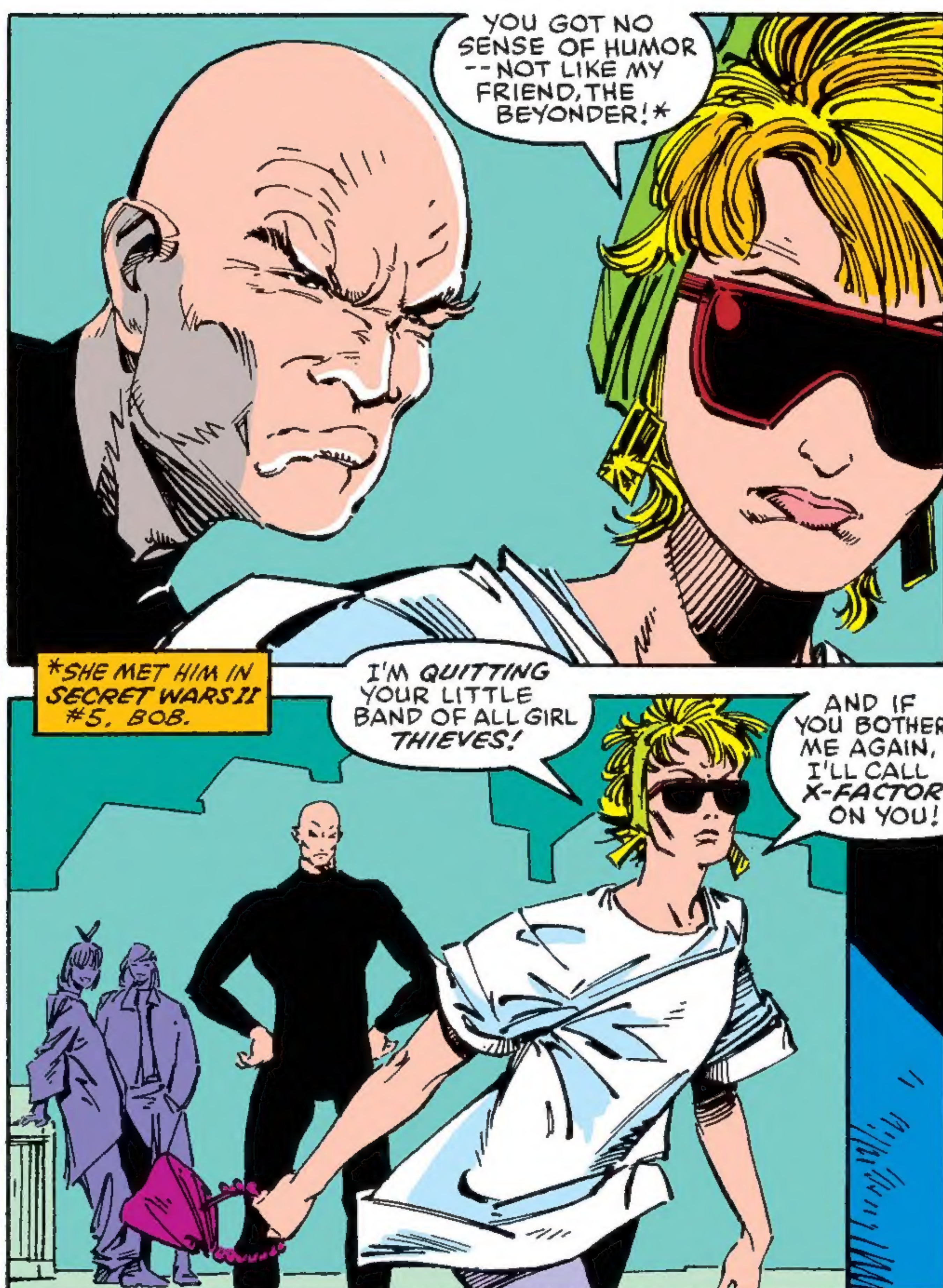


WELL,
OKAY! I
GUESS YOU
DESERVE
IT! HERE
IT IS!

3-
2-
1...



BOOM!



MEANWHILE, SCOTT AND JEAN RETURN TO THE HOSPITAL AS WARREN IS WHEELED FROM THE OPERATING ROOM...



NEXT ISSUE: ICEMAN AND BEAST RUSH TO BOOM BOOM'S RESCUE--WATCH OUT, VANISHER! JEAN GOES TO FIND HER SISTER AND SCOTT REACHES AN IMPORTANT DECISION! PLUS THE TRAGEDY OF ANGEL! NOT AN ISSUE YOU'LL WANT TO MISS!